



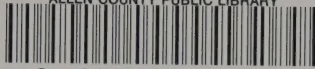
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REYNOLDS HISTORICAL  
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HOMER CITY and CENTER TOWNSHIP, Indiana County, Pa.,

COMMISSION for the CELEBRATION of the

200th Anniversary

of the

Birth of George Washington

1732-1932



Mount Vernon—Home of Washington

Cc

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PROGRAM AND HISTORICAL SOUVENIR BOOKLET

## GENEALOGY COLLECTION

## Washington wrote this---

"Economy makes happy homes  
and sound nations. Instill it deep."

The passing years have only  
proved the truth of his words.

It is as essential to save in 1932  
as it was in 1776. Also it is easier,  
for now every facility is offered per-  
sons desiring to save.

You are invited to open an  
account at this bank.

**The Savings & Trust Company**

Indiana, Pa.



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HOMER CITY, Penn'a, and CENTER TOWNSHIP, Indiana  
County, Penn'a, COMMISSION for the celebration of the 200th  
ANNIVERSARY of the BIRTH of GEORGE WASHINGTON



THE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
OF THE  
HOMER CITY, PA.

This booklet, descriptive of Homer City, Pa., and vicinity, designed as a historical record and to promote friendly feeling in the community, is dedicated to every person who has at some time lived there and expressed pride in calling it their home town.

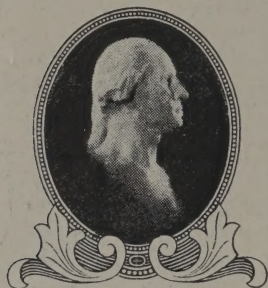
#### PROGRAM.

Historic Souvenir Booklet

## GEORGE WASHINGTON BI-CENTENNIAL COMMISSION

Homer City, Penn'a, and Center Township,

Indiana County, Penn'a



General Chairman, Burgess J. L. Kinter

General Secretary, Rev. Chas. E. Held

Treasurer, Mrs. J. M. Frye

## Members of the Commission:

Honorary: Hon. Gifford Pinchot and Samuel Sheffler

Rev. Harry C. Prugh	R. C. Walbeck	R. N. Glassford
B. F. Harris	Lester Tuck	Wayne George
W. S. Blythe	W. L. Hutchinson	H. W. Stewart
C. F. Jamison	E. J. Miller	Elmer Cravener
H. E. Kerr	Dr. C. H. Kirk	J. R. Hamilton
Rev. B. E. Myers	Mrs. John Fulmer	George Douglas
D. M. Caldwell	John C. Brilhart	John Thomas
Rev. R. H. Ling	Dr. M. M. Palmer	W. H. Smith
R. B. Kunkle	Rev. John Bajcura	W. P. Risinger
Harry Flickinger	H. L. Reed	George Allison
Prof. J. S. Byers	Rev. David Shafer	James Risinger
Ira Holsopple	Samuel Sickenberger	Mrs. Clara Farnsworth
Mrs. A. H. Lewis	Rev. Samuel Po Vey	Thomas
	F. E. Kaufman	



## FOREWORD

On the evening of August 6, 1931, the Burgess of Homer City, Mr. Jas. L. Kinter, called together a number of representative citizens and leaders of organizations to consider the organizing of a George Washington Bi-Centennial Commission. The outcome of the meeting was the effecting of such an organization. Mr. Kinter was made the General Chairman and the writer, the General Secretary. Monthly meetings have been conducted and developments have been made, committees appointed to the several tasks. Through the efforts and work of the Program Committee, this volume became a reality. Much interest has been created in the development of this Historical Booklet and we desire, herein, to make note of some work that has been done by individuals. We appreciate the wholehearted co-operation of the Commission and Program Committee, especially we appreciate the counsel given by the General Chairman and Mrs. Nelle Kinter for work in typing the material of this booklet; to Mr. and Mrs. John Thomas for their work in preparation of the historical sketch, especially Mrs. Thomas for her hours, days and weeks in research and writing of the old history of Homer City and the beginning of Center Township; to Mr. H. E. Kerr for his efforts in behalf of the business part of the booklet; to Mr. R. B. Kunkle and Samuel Sickenberger for their helpfulness in preparation; to the advertisers for their help in making the work possible; and to each and every one who has helped in any way, or contributed to the success of this work.

Rev. Chas. E. Held, Editor and General Secretary of the Commission. Feb. 12, 1932, Homer City, Pa.

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**1528704**

Grateful for the opportunity of being the associate of the members of the Bi-Centennial Commission for the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the birth of George Washington, I wish to thank one and all for their splendid co-operation and, in particular, the secretary, Rev. Chas. E. Held, for his capital work in compiling the data for this booklet, a task to which he gave unstintedly of his time and attention.

JAS. L. KINTER, Gen. Chairman.



GEORGE WASHINGTON BI-CENTENNIAL COMMISSION  
Homer City, Pa.

### COMMITTEES OF THE COMMISSION

Program	Essay Writing	Historical
Rev. Chas. E. Held	J. S. Byers	Harry Flickinger
Chairman	Chairman	Chairman
W. H. Smith	Ira Halsopple	Rev. B. E. Myers
Rev. H. C. Prugh	F. E. Kauffman	R. C. Walbeck
R. B. Kunkle	R. N. Glassford	W. H. Smith
Mrs. A. H. Lewis	Wayne George	W. S. Blythe
Dr. M. M. Palmer	H. W. Stewart	Rev. R. H. Ling
Rev. John Bajcuro	J. R. Hamilton	W. L. Hutchinson
B. F. Harris	Elmer Cramner	
John Thomas		
Financial	Publicity	Tree Planting
Mrs. J. M. Frye	H. L. Reed	Hon. Gifford Finchot
Chairman	Chairman	Honorary Member
H. E. Kerr	Dr. C. H. Kirk	H. E. Kerr
D. M. Caldwell	Samuel Sickenberger	Chairman
E. J. Miller	Lester Tuck	Ira Halsopple
John Brillhart	C. F. Jamison	Dr. C. H. Kirk
Mrs. John Fulmer	Rev. Chas. E. Held	Samuel Sickenberger
George Douglas		E. J. Miller
Rev. David Shafer		John Brillhart





MAP OF HOMER CITY, PA.

1871

## PROGRAM

**Sunday, February 21st**

Religious services in the churches, considering the life of George Washington.

**February 22nd**

The Schools, commemorating by giving programs, plays, pageants and exercises.

**February 22nd**

2:00 P. M. Broadcast over Station W. C. A. E., Pittsburgh, "The Life and Times of George Washington," by Rev. Chas. E. Held.

**February 22nd**

7:30 P. M. Mass meeting in the Homer City High School building: Judging of the Essay Writing Contest of the 7th and 8th grades of Homer City and Center Township and giving of the four best essays, by the winners and Moving Pictures "The Life and Times of George Washington" in four reels.

**April 19th, Patriots Day**

Anniversary of the Battle of Lexington. Program in charge of the Junior Order United American Mechanics.

**April, Spring Arbor Day**

Tree planting program in charge of Tree Planting Committee. We hope to have the Hon. Gifford Pinchot as the speaker on this occasion.

**April 30th, Inauguration Day**

Program in charge of the Lions Club.

**May 30th, Memorial Day**

In charge of G. A. R., assisted by American Legion and Spanish American War Veterans.

**June 14th, Flag Day**

Program in charge of D.A.R., S.A.R. and W.C.T.U.

**July 4th**

A week of celebration of Independence, with speakers of National renown. Program in charge of Homer City Firemen.

**Sept. 5th, Labor Day**

A week of celebration, with speakers of National renown. Program in charge of American Legion and Auxiliary.

**Sept. 17th, Constitution Day**

Program in charge of the Burgess and City Council.

**Oct. 17th, Yorktown Day**

Program in charge of I.O.O.F. and Rebeccahs.

**Nov. 11th, Armistice Day**

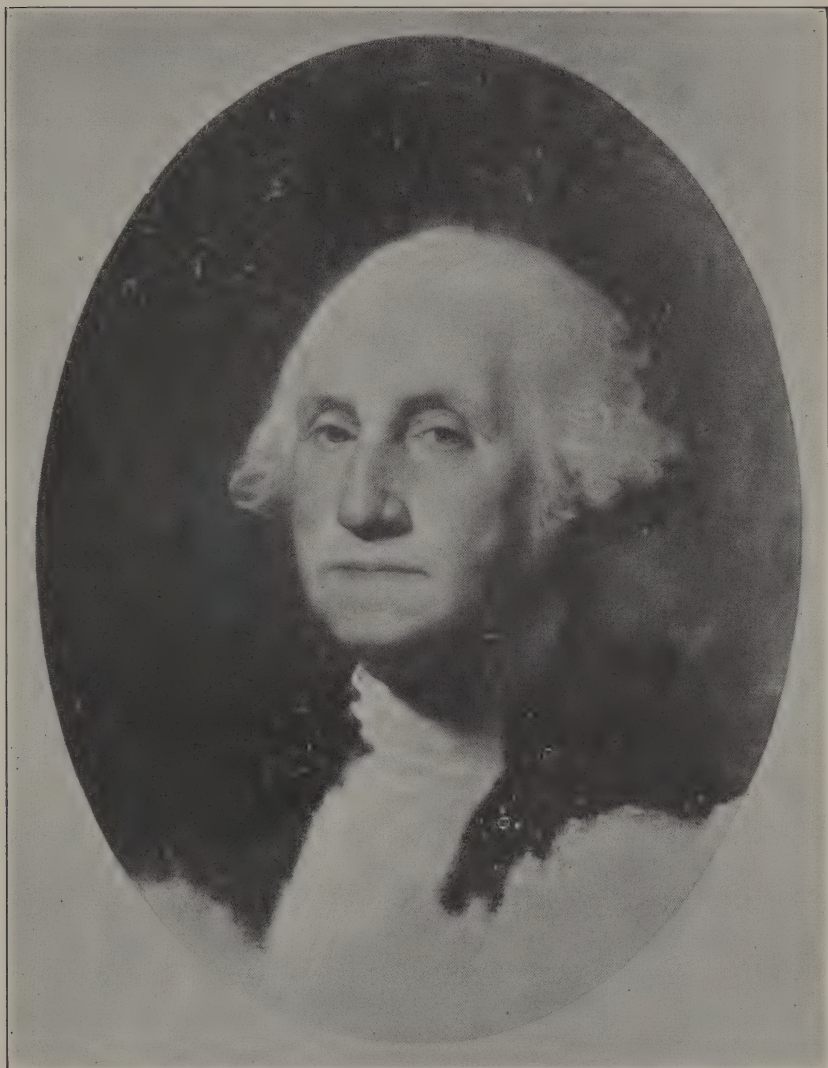
Program in charge of the Schools, Boy Scouts, Campfire Girls, assisted by the American Legion.

**Nov. 24th, Thanksgiving Day**

Union Thanksgiving Service, with the Churches in charge. Closing day of the Celebration.



Providence left him childless that his Country  
might call him Father



GEORGE WASHINGTON

First in war, first in peace, first in the hearts of his Countrymen

1732

GEORGE WASHINGTON

1932

All over the United States and in many parts of the world, the two hundredth anniversary of the birth of George Washington will be celebrated, beginning Feb. 22 and extending until Thanksgiving Day. We shall read about him, think about him, talk about him who won our independence and founded our nation, we shall learn of his courage, strength of character, his achievements as surveyor, engineer, soldier, farmer, business man, writer, patriot, commander-in-chief, statesman and first president of the United States and now shall we briefly review his life?

George Washington was born Feb. 22, 1732, at Bridges Creek Estate, Virginia (later called Wakefield), son of Augustine Washington of Bridges Creek who was born in 1694 and died April 12, 1743, and Mary Ball of Epping Forest, who was born in 1708 and died Aug. 25, 1789. At the age of fifteen years, he made preparation for a career at sea, but his mother vetoed the plan and turned his attention to surveying. In 1749, he received a surveyor's commission from William & Mary College. At the age of twenty, he was appointed as District Adjutant General of the Virginia Militia, with the rank of Major. His pay was 150 pounds per year. In Dec. 1752, Washington came into possession of Mount Vernon by the terms of the will of his half-brother Lawrence. Oct. 31, 1753, Major Washington was chosen to carry Governor Dinwiddie's expostulatory letter to LeGardeur de St. Pierre, French Commander on the Ohio at Fort Le Boeuf (near Waterford, Pa.) and on January 16, 1754, returned with the reply. June 4, 1754, at the death of Colonel Fry, Washington became a Colonel. On July 3, 1754, he engaged in battle with the French at Fort Necessity, Great Meadows, Fayette County, Pa. He fought in other battles in western Penn'a. On Jan. 6, 1759, he married Mrs. Martha Dandridge Custis. He was elected to many offices in his native state. He was a delegate to represent Virginia in the First Continental Congress, Sept. 5-Oct. 26, 1774, attended the Continental Congress in Carpenter's Hall, Philadelphia, Pa. May 10, 1775. At the second Continental Congress, assembled in the State House (Independence Hall), Colonel Washington was elected General and Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the United Colonies. He accepted June 16th and was commissioned June 19, 1775. Washington had trying experiences during the Revolutionary days—his courage was tested—but he was equal to all occasions. He never retreated unless out of necessity to save men, but was victorious in many engagements because of his ability to lead attacks on the enemy. The winter of 1777-78 possibly was the most trying, when he went into quarters at Val-



ley Forge, Pa. Because of the great part Washington played in the Declaration of Independence, and proving that independence through winning the Revolutionary war, made him known as a leader of men. His countrymen had confidence in him. On Feb. 4, 1789, he was chosen, unanimously, as president of the United States. On April 14th, he received notice of his election to the Presidency at his home from Charles Thomson, Secretary of Congress, and on April 30th he was inaugurated President of the United States at Federal Hall, New York city. Robert R. Livingston, Chancellor of the State of New York, administered the oath. On Sept. 26, 1789, he appointed his cabinet which consisted of four members. Thomas Jefferson was made Secretary of State. Dec. 5, 1792, Washington was re-elected President by a unanimous vote and was inaugurated Mar. 4, 1793. Washington had many honors bestowed upon him, many colleges conferred degrees. He was held in high esteem by his fellowmen. He was a member of Free Masonry and of the Episcopal Church. He had a social temperament and exercised it with his friends. He was a sportsman and loved the woods and out of door life. He died Dec. 14th, 1799, at 11:00 P. M. and a great soul departed to its eternal rest. The last rites were held in his home at Mount Vernon Dec. 18, 1799. He was buried in the family vault on the estate, within sight of the house. In 1831, his body, with that of his wife Martha Washington, were placed in the new vault at Mount Vernon.

Some of Washington's rules of civility and decent behavior in company and conversation, from his own writings:

1. Every action, done in company, ought to be with some sign of respect to those that be present.
2. In the presence of others sing not to yourself with a humming noise, nor drum with your fingers or feet.
3. Keep your nails clean and short, also your hands and feet clean, yet without showing any great concern for them.
4. Let your countenance be pleasant, but in serious matters be grave.
5. The gestures of the body must be suited to the discourse you are upon.
6. Shew not yourself glad at the misfortune of another though he were your enemy.
7. Let your discourse with men of business be short and comprehensive.
8. Do not express joy before one sick or in pain for that contrary passion will aggravate his misery.

9. Be not hasty to believe flying reports to the disparagement of another.

10. Speak not evil of the absent for it is unjust.

11. Undertake not what you cannot perform, but be careful to keep your promise.

12. When your superiors talk to any one hearken not, neither speak nor laugh.

13. Treat with men at fit times about business and whisper not in the company of others.

14. Be not apt to relate news if you know not truth thereof.

15. If others talk at the table, be attentive, but talk not with meat in your mouth.

16. Let your recreations be manful, not sinful.

17. Labor to keep alive in your breast that little spark of celestial fire called conscience.

18. Strut not with your superiors in argument but always submit your judgment to others with modesty.

19. In writing, or speaking give to every person his due title according to his degree and the custom of the place.

20. Associate yourself with men of good quality if you esteem your own reputation, for 'tis better to be alone than in bad company.





JAMES L. KINTER  
Mayor of Homer City, Pa.

Mayor James L. Kinter was born on a Center Township farm near the site of the Cherry Run Dam, about a mile from Homer City, on January 23rd, 1887, a son of Henry Scott Kinter and Margaret Lucas.

The Ancestral family were pioneers in the County and his great-great-grandfather served three enlistments in the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War.

His early education was obtained at Upper Homer grade school, which he insists was superior in many respects to the modern university. When eighteen years of age he began his practical education in Engineering, successfully passing the State Board examinations some years later and is now a practicing Civil and Mining Engineer.

He has held public office continually since his family removed from the homestead on the Waterman Road to Homer City in 1912, serving as clerk of Council and Borough Engineer successively until his election as Mayor in 1929.

He is a Democrat.

In 1915 he married Nellie Marie Klingensmith of Indiana, Pa., and has since resided at their home on Ridge Ave.

Mr. and Mrs. Kinter are the parents of three boys, James Lucas, Jr., Thomas Wilson and Robert Eugene, who are active in the younger life of the community.

## HISTORICAL SKETCH OF HOMER CITY AND VICINITY

By the purchase of Fort Stanwix (Rome, N.Y.), November 5, 1768, the Six Nations conveyed to the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania all their lands within the Province, south of the following lines: From the North Branch of the Susquehanna on the New York line to the mouth of Towanda Creek, thence to its source, to the head of Pine Creek, to the mouth of Pine Creek, up the west branch of the Susquehanna to Canoe Place (Cherrytree), thence over to Kittanning, down the Allegheny and Ohio to the west line of the state. The Delawares and Shawnees had not consented to this treaty and were loath to give up their hunting grounds. (1)

At that time, this locality was a part of Cumberland County; a part of Bedford after that county was formed in 1171; and Wheatfield township, Westmoreland County, in 1173. (2) In 1785, there was only one voting place in Wheatfield township (all the territory now in sixteen townships in Indiana County). That year the election was held at the house of Samuel Dickson.

The only roads were Indian paths or trails. The "Ligonier and Peholand Trail" or "Ligonier and Coughcheating Path" extended from Ligonier through Centerville, on the Conemaugh, thence across Blacklick Creek, along Twolick, then on northward through the county to Coughcheating, an Indian town. The Peholand camp-site was on the west side of Twolick Creek, on what is known as the McConnaughey farm. (3) Another historian says: "The trail from Cushcheoting (Coshocton) to Ligonier came into Indiana County near the northwest corner, ran through Indiana town, passed through the township of West Wheatfield, and crossed the Conemaugh between New Florence and Nineveh, and thence up the valley." (4)

Many of the settlers in this locality came from Cumberland and Franklin Counties. The country was very attractive—wooded hills, well watered; many meadows with good grass; abundance of game, and the land to be had "almost for the taking."

The first improvement made on the McConnaughey farm was by James McConnaughey about the time of the Revolutionary war. He was driven off by the Indians. The tract was called "Nazareth" in the patent, and was surveyed on an application dated April 3, 1769. It was sold, 1787, to Charles Campbell by the commissioners of Westmoreland County for taxes. In 1788, Campbell deeded the tract to Robert Allison, who obtained the patent in 1789. The patent is assigned to James McConnaughey in 1815. The land was occupied by him and his descendants for many years.



Another early settlement was on what is known as the McGee farm. This was originally surveyed in 1770 for William Evans and was first settled by Thomas Wilkins, who, it is said, planted an orchard of seven apple trees that he carried on his back from Franklin County, about 1769. He was also driven away by the Indians, who cut down four of the trees with their tomahawks. When Thomas Wilkins returned in 1791 he found three of the trees growing.

David Cummins and his young wife settled farther up Twolick Creek. A son, William, was born there in 1775; another son, John, in 1777. Mrs. Cummins often told her grandchildren of seeing "an Indian pass the door of their cabin in the dusk of the evening, while she was sitting inside the door nursing her child, her husband being absent." Next morning she found where two men had lain in the long grass near their house, but had gone without making an attack. Taking alarm, they packed up what they could carry on horseback, hid their kitchen furniture, pewter ware, saws, other tools and farming implements in the spring and went to Wallace's fort (near Blairsville). Later they went to Franklin County, then to Virginia, where Mr. Cummins died. In 1791, Mrs. Cummins and her five children returned to their claim.

Daniel McKesson located in the neighborhood about 1780. His tract, or part of it, has since his time remained in the hands of his descendants. It is now owned and occupied by a great-granddaughter, Mrs. Emma Steele.

In the spring of 1774, Samuel Moorhead, a brother of Fergus and Joseph Moorhead, commenced to build a mill on Stony Run, near where it empties into Twolick. Before it was built, the people were driven out by Indians. However, they returned in the fall and Moorhead's mill was completed. This was the first mill in Indiana County. It was destroyed soon after it was built. (5) Samuel Moorhead was elected captain of a small company of backwoods militia and in July, 1776, was stationed at Kittanning. (6)

Some years later, Andrew Dickson, known as "Sawyer Andy," built a saw-mill on the Moorhead location on Stony Run. (7) His cabin was near where the "stone house" is now. A part of the Andrew Dickson tract is now embraced in the farm of his great-grandson, Dickson Stephens.

After the breaking out of the War of the Revolution, 1776, the Indians became openly hostile and the few settlers were compelled to flee, remaining away until the war was over, when they returned, the war with the Indians was not over and several blockhouses were erected in the neighborhood. One of these was

on the Peter Fair farm, then owned by Samuel Todd. Among the pioneers who fled to this blockhouse for protection were Thomas Wilkins, Daniel McKesson, James Mitchell, Andrew Dickson, Samuel Dickson, G. Doty, and Samuel Todd.

In October, 1784, another treaty was made with the Indians at Fort Stanwix, in which the Six Nations ceded to Pennsylvania all the lands within the state north of the "purchase line." It was still necessary to satisfy the Wyandottes, Delawares, and other western tribes, who claimed title to the same lands, so a treaty was made with them at Fort McIntosh (Beaver, Pa.), January 21, 1785, in which they relinquished their rights to the lands. (8)

In 1788, Andrew Allison, a son of Robert Allison, came to the tract purchased by his father. With the help of James Simpson and John White, who were located on Cherry Run, he erected the blockhouse known as the "Allison blockhouse" or "Old McConnaughey Ford." Mrs. James S. Flickinger, a granddaughter of John Allison, recalls well seeing this "fort." She says it was built of logs about one and one-half stories high, and that it contained "port holes" five or six inches square through which to shoot. The farm house was later built on the same ground. After its erection, settlers repaired to it when necessary. Shortly before the erection of this blockhouse, Andrew Simpson, a brother of James Simpson, and John White were attacked by Indians near the mouth of Blacklick Creek while on their way to warn a settlement below of danger. Simpson was killed, but White escaped with a broken arm. (9)

The settlers were "bothered" by the Indians until after the victory of General Anthony Wayne at Fallen Timbers, in 1794. (10) Even after that an occasional roving band disturbed the neighborhood.

The residents here at this time were mostly Scotch-Irish Presbyterians and, as Bethel church was organized about 1790, for a long time they worshipped there.

A schoolhouse was built in 1798, on the McMullen farm (now owned by Lafayette Tuck) and children went to school one or two months each year. This was a rude log building, twenty by twenty-five feet, and for the first few years had no floors. The windows were of greased paper and a huge chimney occupied one end of the house. The logs were round, the sides of the building mud-daubed, and it had a clap-board roof.

All houses of this, and until a much later period, were built of logs. The stone house on the McGee farm was erected in 1823, by John Ross.





HOMER CITY NATIONAL BANK

## HOMER CITY NATIONAL BANK, HOMER CITY, PA.

The Homer City National Bank was organized in the year 1907. The population of the town at that time was only 985. The town had no paved streets, no electric lights, no high-school building, no street car, no filling stations, no garages, no automobiles. Thus the bank had its beginning. In February 1909 the present building was erected and in 1923, the Post-office annex was added. The bank has grown from \$33,000 resources from the first day, until now, it has more than \$1,500,000 resources. The Homer City National Bank is a Financial Institution of reliability in our community and is a servant of the public. The present officers: President, James Craig; Vice President, Harry Flickinger; Cashier, George L. Douglas; Teller, Burton Guthrie. Directors: Harry Flickinger, Lafayette Tuck, James Craig, Samuel Sickenberger, John Thomas, John Sink.



SAW MILL OWNED BY J. M. GUTHRIE  
Of fifty years ago, Homer City, Pa.



THE OLD MILL ON YELLOW CREEK, INDIANA COUNTY, PA.

H. H. Brehm, Indiana, Pa.

FLOUR AND GRIST MILL OF J. P. ST. CLAIR  
Of olden days, Homer City, Pa.



COVERED BRIDGE  
(Like the one over Two Lick Creek)



HOMER CITY WATER WORKS



As late as 1800, the nearest trading town was Greensburg. Newport was a small village at the mouth of Blacklick Creek, on the Conemaugh. Here were several stores, two taverns, a tannery, a scythe factory, a hatters shop, a carding machine, and a saw mill. Coffee sold at forty and fifty cents per pound, iron at eight to twelve cents per pound, salt at five dollars per bushel and very wet at that. (11)

The land on the east side of Twolick Creek was patented in two tracts: one to John Allison and the other to John and William Cummins. William Cummins located on Crooked Creek, in 1806, and John and his descendants improved the Cummins farms south of Homer. It is not known who first settled on the tract patented to John Allison. It was sold by the commissioners of Westmoreland County for taxes in 1796, and purchased by John Allison in 1814.

Armour Phillips, Sr., and his family settled on the east side of Yellow Creek, on an "Improvement" made by Tate Allison. They walked from Hollidaysburg and carried all their clothing, cooking utensils, tools, etc. Like the other settlers, by hard work, they became very prosperous.

Indiana County was formed from Westmoreland and Lycoming Counties in 1803. The part south of the "purchase line" was formerly a part of Westmoreland County, north of the line, a part of Lycoming County. There were three townships: Wheatfield and Armstrong south of the line, Mahoning north of it. Indiana was made the county seat, owing to the extraordinary overtures of George Clymer. The "fork" of Twolick and Yellow Creek, near the present site of Homer City, was a competitor for the honor. This site was not without its advantages, among which were its abundance of water, its water power, and the near proximity of coal. (12)

Center township was formed from Armstrong in 1807. At that time the township contained one hundred and fifty-seven taxables. John Allison was the assessor. Among these pioneers we find such names as Hamilton, Allison, McConnaughey, Phillips, Simpson, Stewart, Wilson, Ross, Rankin, Mikesell, Dickson, Adams, Cummins, Harrold, McKesson, Pounds, Todd.

Soon after securing his land, John Allison built a grist mill, on Yellow Creek, near the end of what is now Maple Street. The dam on Yellow Creek that held the water to furnish power for this mill was nearer Main Street than other dams erected across this stream since that time. All the machinery and irons used in building the mill were carried on the backs of horses, on pack-saddles, from Franklin County. His home was a log house where

the hotel now stands.

When the first mill was worn out, another was constructed, about 1850, on the east side of Twolick Creek. The water to turn the mill was taken through a "race" from Yellow Creek and the "tail race" emptied the used water into Twolick. This mill passed successively through the hands of the following proprietors: William Richards, Samuel Dickson, James Simpson, Robert Craig, Armour Phillips, Henry Ketler, George Christy, David Ellis, and in 1870, came into the hands of Rees R. Ellis. He erected another mill, of larger capacity, doing business as the Homer Mills. In 1885, the St. Clairs became the owners. The mills were destroyed by fire in 1901.

An "up and down" sawmill was operated on Twolick, just below where the second grist mill was built, by a man named Simpson. This was before James S. Simpson built a steam mill, in 1850, near the confluence of Yellow and Twolick Creeks. The latter mill was erected for a saw mill, but was afterwards converted into a grist mill.

One of the first shops found in any pioneer community is that of the blacksmith. Wilson McDonnell had a shop here when the village was laid out, but there were others before him.

The state road from Ligonier to Blairsville, thence to Indiana, was surveyed in 1826. No bridge was built over Yellow Creek until 1835. The crookedness of Main Street is caused by choosing an easy grade down the bank to ford the creek. We do not know what the first and the second bridges were like. The third was a covered wooden one. About 1888, when there was a large quantity of logs in the creek and dam, a flood came and the "dam went out." The logs jammed at the bridge, damaging it so much that a new one had to be built. This was an iron one. It was replaced in 1910 by the present steel girder bridge, the fifth over Yellow Creek at this point.

The old covered bridge over Twolick, at Main Street, was built in 1855. It was the second at that place. The present steel one was erected in 1903.

The McConnaughey family maintained a canoe ferry over Twolick, near their home, for many years. The first bridge at that point was a covered one that was replaced in 1885 by the present steel one.

John Mullen established a store in Homer in 1832. This was on the east side of Main street, near Twolick Creek (now Main and Indiana Streets). Isaac N. St. Clair was a later merchant in this building. Mr. Mullen erected three storehouses before the

platting of the village.

The second merchant was Hugh Devers, who, a short time after the opening of the Mullen store, had removed to this locality and commenced to sell goods and buy country produce. The price of eggs was two and three cents per dozen, butter five to ten cents per pound. He is thought to be the first merchant in the county who wagoned produce to Pittsburgh. His store was on Main Street, where the bank now stands. After a continuance of ten years, he was succeeded by Devers & Craig, then James and John Devers, who moved to the old storeroom of Mullen & Allison, afterward Mullen & Phillips, and later, G. Hill Ogden.

Long before this time, among the settlers were found a number of Methodists. They held their first meetings in a private house, then in a schoolhouse, and, in 1837, built the log church which remained a landmark for many years. It stood on the lot owned by H. E. Kerr, and on which he resides. This log building was erected with a foundation stone eight feet square at each corner. These stones were used at the corners in the foundation of the Kerr residence. The road up Yellow Creek Street to the Phillips place passed close the log church when the church was built. This log building was used until the erection of the red brick one, at Main and Church Streets, at a cost of one thousand dollars in 1855.

Since the formation of the township the population has been slowly but steadily growing. Among the names found now are Risinger, Peddicord, Carson, Weir, Flickinger, Kelly, Kerr, Griffith, Lomison, Kier.

The village was laid out in 1854 by William Wilson, who named it for the Greek poet—Homer.

The Indiana Branch of the Pennsylvania Railroad was completed through Homer to Indiana in 1855. The Homer station was located on the north side of what is now West Elm Street, and David Boyd was the first agent for the company. A flag-stop for passengers and a railroad freight warehouse were located near the Ogden homestead. This station was Phillips Mills. A siding extended down what is now Mullen avenue. The Ogden store-room was here, also the postoffice, named Phillips Mills, in honor of Armour Phillips.

The first postmaster was David M. Marshall. The second, Mrs. Jane Phillips, who lived in the house now owned by Joseph Mitchell. The postoffice was in the rear room next Ogden's. The equipment consisted of a four-foot by five-foot case of pigeon holes placed on a "lift-up lid" desk. Trains were not stopped to load and unload mail. A platform was extended from the bank to





### PENN'A RAILROAD STATION

Homer City, Pa.

### PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD STATION

The following agents have served at Homer City: David Boyd, George Hill Ogden, George D. Ogden, Jack Bolar, Ed. C. McCracken, C. P. Dixon, J. C. Thomas.

John C. Thomas was born Jan. 28, 1869, in Armstrong Township, Indiana County, Pa. He attended the District school, also Indiana Normal school. He taught school a couple of terms. On July 29, 1892, he began working for the Penn'a Railroad Company, spent three years as agent at Edri, one year at Hyde Park and, in 1901, came as agent to Homer City, which position he has held ever since. On Sept. 17, 1901, he married Miss Clara Farnsworth. Mr. Thomas is a member of the Sons of American Revolution and the Homer City Lions Club. Mr. Thomas is a good citizen and interested in the welfare of his community.

near the track. Someone stood on this platform with the mail to be forwarded and, as the train passed, handed the sack to the baggageman, Armour Mullen. At the same time he pitched off the sack containing the mail for Phillips Mills. There was one train north and one south each week day morning and evening.

During the "dark days of the '60's", our boys responded nobly to the call of their country. Some were left on the field of battle, others wounded; some won signal honors, each did the duty assigned him. The Major A. J. Bolar Post No. 533, G. A. R., was organized August 16, 1886. On account of the depleted ranks, the Post was disbanded June 30, 1908. Samuel Sheffler is the only surviving member.

In 1872, a century after the arrival of the first white settlers, the village had attained a size sufficient to become a borough. The first election of officers resulted as follows: Against license, 30, for license, 24, Burgess, David Boyd; Town Council, John H. Devers, William McKesson, J. P. Mikesell, John McLain, William H. Douthitt, and John Dodson; High Constable, R. P. Carson; School Directors, John Evans, William Mullen, William Wilson, R. R. Ellis, R. Peddicord, James Flickinger; Assessor, John Mullen; Assistant Assessors, Abraham Flickinger, William Wilson; Overseers of the Poor, John McLain, Isaac Killen; Auditors, Simon Drenning, B. Peddicord, L. P. Flickinger; Judge of Election, John Griffith; Inspector, John F. Barclay, James M. Watt; Constable, Alex M. Lucas. The population, about three hundred.

A list of "business notices" published about this time follows: B. Boyd, Penn. railroad agent; A. J. Bolar, Principal of Normal School, Homer; G. C. Cribbs, prop'r of "Homer House"; R. P. Carson, manuf'r of boots and shoes; A. W. Coy, dealer in all kinds of merchandise, bark, etc.; John H. Devers, salesman; J. P. Douthitt, director of Homer, Cherrytree and Susquehanna railroad; Rees R. Ellis, prop'r of Homer Mills, Phillips Mills P. O.; John Evans, M.D., physician and surgeon; O. C. Earl, manuf'r and dealer in tin and sheet iron ware, stoves, etc.; Abraham Flickinger, retired; Martin Kier, dealer in all kinds of merchandise; Isaac Killen, general blacksmith, manuf'r and repairer of wagons, etc.; Elias King, stone mason; John Mullen, retired; Rev. D. M. McClellan, pastor of U. P. church; William McKesson, general blacksmithing done at the shortest notice, manuf'r of wagons, etc.; D. D. Myers, tailor; G. H. Ogden, dealer in drygoods, groceries, queensware, hardware, boots, shoes, hats, caps, clothing, fish, salt, iron, nails, etc.; Peddicord & Son, dealer in agriculture implements, etc.; I. N. St. Clair, dealer in drygoods, groceries, confections; J. M. St. Clair, salesman; James S. Simpson, proprietor of steam grist mill; John W. Smith, proprietor of "Railroad House," near depot; J. W. Uncapher, carpenter and

joiner; Wineman & Barclay, dealers in drygoods, etc.; James M. Watt & Co., drug merchants; Samuel Wolf, boot and shoe manuf'r and repairer; Daniel C. Weir, house carpenter, architect, builder and contractor.

In Center township are: P. Sheffler, blacksmith and wagon-maker; Robert C. Carson, farmer and carpenter; J. Lomison, dealer in all kinds of merchandise; Adam Mikesell, retired; and the following farmers: John H. Allison, J. Brandon, Wm. Burns, Thos. Burns, J. A. Barclay, T. B. Cummins, Samuel Dickson, Jos. D. Dickie, Robert Hamill, Peter Harrold, P. Hendrickson, Michael Job, Robt. Johnston, Jacob Kaufmann, Enos Mikesell, Wm. Mitchell, G. A. Mikesell, Philip Mikesell, A. L. Mitchell, J. H. Stewart, D. M. Smtih.

G. H. Ogden purchased the ground east of Main Street, fronting on Indiana Street, and removed his store to the large frame building erected by J. M. Guthrie at this corner. He was the third postmaster. February 11, 1876, the name of the office was changed from Phillips Mills to Homer City. Mr. Ogden served as station agent for the railroad company, held various other offices of trust and, in 1890, was elected Treasurer of Indiana County, which position he was holding at the time of his death, in 1891.

Other postmasters in Homer City since Mr. Ogden have been John Coy, Dr. John Evans, J. C. McMillen, B. B. McConnaughey, John M. Carson, Joseph J. Campbell and the present one, Ralph B. Kunkle.

Largely through the efforts of G. H. Ogden, John H. Devers, and James M. St. Clair, the station building at Homer was removed to its present location and Phillips Mills station abandoned. About 1885, James S. Flickinger was given the contract for taking the building down and re-erecting it. The work was accomplished in two days. It was taken down one day and erected the next. The lumber was removed from one location to the other by a crew of railroad men with a work train.

A map published in 1871 shows the Homer, Susquehannah and Cherrytree railroad. This road was projected between Homer and Cherrytree. Some grading was done at the Homer end, about one mile of track laid, and, at long intervals, a locomotive passed over it. In 1912 and 1913, the Yellowcreek branch of the Pennsylvania railroad, five miles in length, was built on the old right of way.

Before Homer City became a borough, the pupils on the west side of Yellow Creek attended school at the Risinger schoolhouse.





THE SECOND PRAIRIE STATE INCUBATOR FACTORY  
Homer City, Pa.

The Incubator works of Homer City, Pa., is the largest equipped plant of its kind. The photograph shows the third plant built and operated in Homer City. The first plant was destroyed by fire on April 30th, 1892. A new plant, three times the size of the original plant, was erected the same year. It was destroyed by fire on Aug. 10th, 1911. In the same year the present building was erected, a modern, fire proof building. These three plants have employed the citizens of Homer City for nearly a half century. Much credit is given to the originator of the Incubator Business, Mr. J. L. Nix, for the service he has rendered to the citizens of Homer City and the surrounding country.

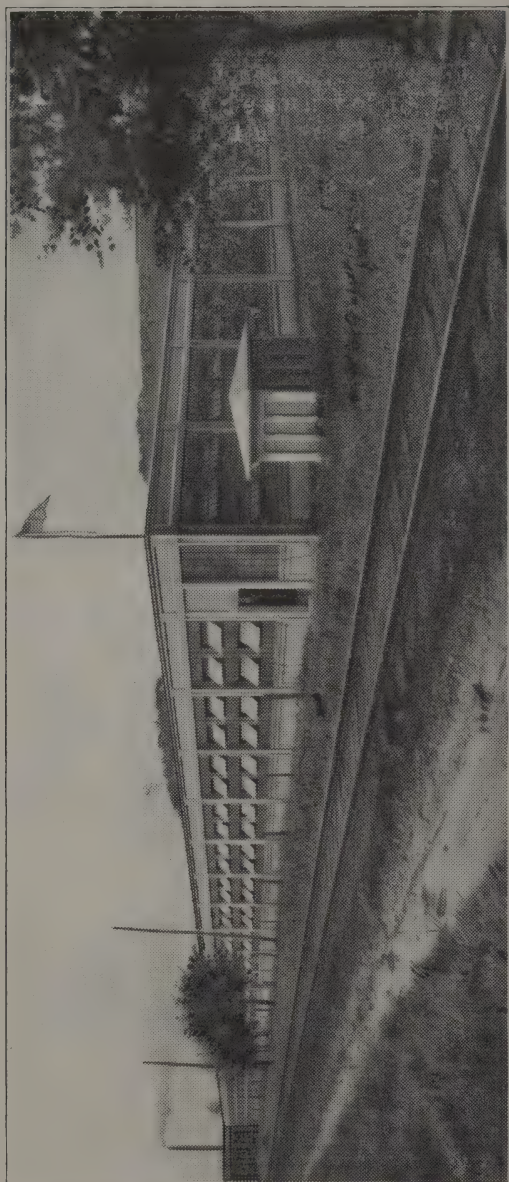
Those on the east side of the stream attended at what is now known as Upper Homer. Three of the teachers here were James Chapman, Nelson Lomison and Simon Drenning. A one-room building was the first in Homer City, on ground adjoining the Lutheran church property. Teachers here were: W. C. Weaver, J. M. Moore, Maurice Trainer, J. N. Bracken. The school had outgrown the one-room building and the latter two years the larger pupils were taught in the second story of the old Ogden storeroom. Access to this room was had by an outside stairway. Teachers here were J. H. Wilson, W. P. Altman. Another one story room was built to the first one, and teachers in the two rooms are as follows: 1887-8, J. M. Duncan, Margaret Fair; 1878-9, J. S. Griffith, Margaret Fair; 1879-80, J. A. Kinter, S. Drenning; 1880-1, Jennie Pinkerton, Emma Mullen; 1881-2, A. J. Bolar, Porter McGee; 1882-3, A. J. Bolar, Porter McGee; 1883-4, O. I. Hess, J. N. Bracken; 1884-5, John N. Bracken, Olive A. Stout; 1885-6, M. E. McClain, Birdie McLaren; 1890-1 and 1891-2, H. H. Scott and Harry W. Fee. During their terms the schools were removed to the present building. Before the second room was erected, the larger pupils were taught in the second story of the old Ogden storeroom. Entrance was gained by an outside stairway. Teachers here were W. P. Altman and Joseph Wilson (two term).

Johnston Bros., afterward Johnston & Stewart, operated a tannery and saddler's shop north of West Elm Street, between the railroad and the creek. This industry was established in 1861. It employed sixteen men. Alex Johnston, a son of one of the proprietors and a resident of Homer City at the present time, was employed grinding bark. The leather was sold locally and was also manufactured into harness, saddles, etc., by the firm. These manufactured products were also sold in local markets.

One of the chief industries of Homer City for over twenty years was the Lumber business.

In the early seventies, J. M. Guthrie of Indiana, Pa., secured a charter for driving logs on Yellow Creek. A large mill was erected and the logs and timber purchased along the waters of Yellow Creek and floated to Homer City by use of splash dams along the stream.

For over twenty years an average of 5,000,000 feet of pine, hemlock, and hardwood lumber was manufactured and marketed from this mill, a large part of which was furnished to the Pennsylvania Railroad Company for car material, bridge timber and switch ties. This business furnished employment for a large number of men, both on the mill and in the woods, getting out the raw material. Later a large planing mill for the manufacture of



THE PRESENT PRAIRIE STATE INCUBATOR FACTORY  
Homer City, Pa.



dressed lumber, doors and sash was erected and this increased the number of employees.

The plant was eventually sold to Morris, Betts & Company, who operated it until the supply of timber along the Yellow Creek was practically exhausted.

#### THE L. C. HASINGER CO.

The present buildings of the Pin Mill (The L. C. Hasinger Co.) were erected in 1890 by the J. M. Guthrie interests, as the machine and blacksmith shops of the then saw mill and lumber operations of the Hughes & Guthrie Lumber Company. In 1895 the property and buildings were acquired by the Blairsville Manufacturing Co. for the purpose of manufacturing wooden tool handles. In 1902 it was taken over by the Guthrie-Tuck Manufacturing Company, a corporation consisting of William A. Guthrie, Murray H. Guthrie and C. W. Tuck. In 1905 the buildings were wrecked by a boiler explosion. It was rebuilt and new and modern machinery installed for the manufacture of hickory tool handles, locust insulator telegraph and telephone pins and brackets, and in 1908 the property and contents were taken over by C. W. Tuck and L. C. Hasinger and the business conducted under the partnership name of The L. C. Hasinger Company. New machinery was added for the manufacture of all kinds of tool handles, insulator pins and brackets and during the world war the plant was commandeered by the United States Shipping Board, Emergency Fleet Corporation, for the manufacture of locust treenails, used in the hulls of wooden vessels for coast wise shipping. Thousands of handles were furnished the United States government in their work of constructing the Panama Canal. Insulator pins and brackets were exported to many foreign countries.

The business was actively continued until the death of the senior partner, C. W. Tuck, in May, 1924.

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A co-operative canning factory was established in Homer City about 1902. A building was erected on West Elm street. This factory was splendidly equipped with machinery for canning all kinds of fruit and vegetables, making jellies, etc., and was in operation two years. It was forced out of business because not enough persons could be interested in producing materials for canning to keep it in operation.

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Homer City has been using natural gas for more than forty

years. The first company to furnish gas was the Saltsburg Gas Company, then the Conemaugh Gas Company. The supply came from Oakland Crossroads, Westmoreland County and the line was laid by way of Blairsville. This supply failed and gas was then secured from the Indiana Gas Company, now the Columbia Gas Co.

The Indiana County Street Railways Company built a line from Indiana to Blairsville in 1907. They have furnished Homer City and other intervening points with excellent service since that time.

In May, 1916, electric street lighting was installed.

In 1916, the brick paving on Main street from Church street to the P. R. R. tracks was laid. A few citizens will recall how cold it was when the last asphalt filler was poured.

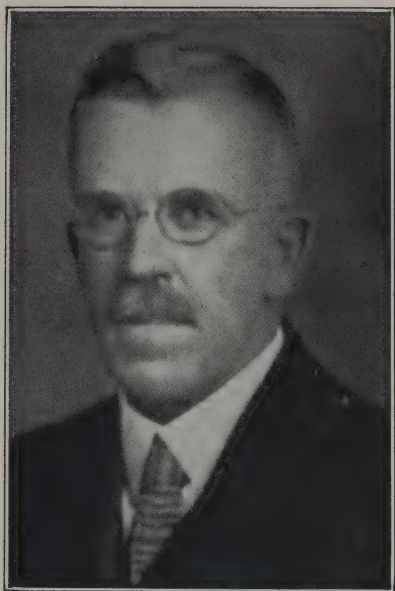
An ordinance was passed in 1919 granting the C. D. & P. Telephone Company (Bell) permission to install telephones in the borough. Before that time, the Huntingdon & Clearfield Telephone Company furnished local service.

The cement street paving on Main street was done in 1922, the paving on Wiley Street and Ridge Avenue in 1925.

The municipal water system was installed in the fall of 1927.

The Buffalo, Rochester & Pittsburgh Railroad Company, extended its line from Indiana to Josephine in 1903. This was primarily a freight line, but for several years a combination freight and passenger train was run. There was a flag station—Homer—at the T. J. Brandon farm. Branch lines were built to Lucerne Mines, Tide, Waterman, and Luciusboro in 1913 and 1914. Station buildings were erected at Homer, on Ridge Avenue, Waterman and Luciusboro. When this station at Homer was established the name of the other was changed to Remoh. An agency was maintained at Waterman until 1924, when it was abandoned and the buildings at both Waterman and Luciusboro removed. D. H. Davis and D. G. Caldwell have been the station agents at Homer. All passenger service on the B. R. & P. lines south of Indiana has been discontinued, for a number of years. January 1, 1932, the B. R. & P. railway became a part of the Baltimore & Ohio system.

The present officers of Homer City borough are: Burgess, James L. Kinter; Council, Wm. E. Guthrie (president), Ralph B. Kunkle, L. H. E. Will, Richard D. Kautter, John C. Thomas, John E. Sink, Samuel T. McMillen; Clerk of Council, Louis A. Will;



HARRY FLICKINGER  
Homer City, Pa.



MRS. AMANDA FLICKINGER  
Homer City, Pa.

J. S. Flickinger, father of Harry Flickinger, engaged in the Funeral Director business in 1872 and Harry Flickinger entered the business with his father in 1906. Altogether, they have been sixty years in the business. This is the oldest in Indiana County. J. S. Flickinger died in 1917.

Amanda Jane (Peddicord) Flickinger, daughter of Richard and Hannah (Allison) Peddicord, born in Blacklick Township March 23, 1839.

She was married to James S. Flickinger, Feb. 20, 1866 by the Rev. Shepley of Blairsville, then moved to the home of her husband's parents, which building is now owned by John Stahl. She lived there about two years then moved into her own home on Main Street, which is now owned by her son Harry and where he has a Furniture store.

Her children are as follows: Hannah Mary (dead), Harry, Flora Edith (dead), James Albert, fifteen grand-children and four great-grand-children.

She lived in this home until she moved to the home of her grand-daughter, Mrs. A. B. Voyten, where she now resides.

Mrs. Flickinger is the oldest citizen of Homer City and Center Township.



Treasurer, Samuel Sickenberger; Tax Collector, Arlin A. Weaver; Constable, A. I. Campbell; Justice of the Peace, W. L. Hutchinson, Ralph Wineman; Assessor, H. R. Grumbling; School Directors, Harry Flickinger, Dan Harmon, Dr. M. M. Palmer, Benj. F. Harris, Lisle H. Kunkle; Judge of Election, A. W. Ruddock; Majority Inspector, L. A. Will; Minority Inspector, Nelle M. Kinter. James L. Nix is superintendent of the Water Department.

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2. *Pennsylvania Archives*, Third Series, Vol. 24, p. 4.
3. Caldwell, *History of Indiana County, Pa.*, map and p. 250.
4. Albert, *History of Westmoreland County, Pa.*, p. 178.
5. Beers, *Atlas of Indiana County, Pa.*, p. 4.
6. Caldwell, *History of Indiana County, Pa.*, p. 134.
7. Beers, *Atlas of Indiana County, Pa.*, p. 4.
8. Sipe, *Indian Wars of Pennsylvania*, p. 688.
9. Sipe, *Indian Wars of Pennsylvania*, p. 159.
10. Stewart, *History of Indiana County, Pa.*, p. 263.
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12. Egle, *History of Pennsylvania*, p. 795.



HOMER CITY FIRE HALL



HOMER CITY TOWN COUNCIL

## HOMER CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Early in the spring of 1918, after a disastrous fire, some of the progressive citizens of Homer City, recognizing the need of better fire protection, incorporated the Homer City Fire Department and, through public subscriptions, purchased an American La France two-tank chemical truck which, for years, gave excellent service and was the means of saving much valuable property. Upon completion of the Municipal Water System in 1928, a hose truck was purchased from the city of Greensburg. One thousand feet of hose was also purchased jointly by the Fire Department and the Town Council. At the same time the department was reorganized and the personnel increased to fifty members which figure has been kept up to the present time. With the purchase of the hose truck arose the question of suitable building in which to house apparatus and afford a meeting place so a lot was purchased on west Church street and plans made for the erection of a building. Bonds were sold among the members of the Department and their friends and the present commodious building was erected at a cost of approximately \$6,500, which houses the trucks, the jail and also provides a room for the Council, the Water Department and a large assembly hall. In 1930, the Department purchased a modern American La France pumper of 500 gallons per minute capacity completely equipped for \$6,000. The building, real estate and equipment represent an investment of about \$15,000, which has been financed almost entirely by the Department itself through suppers, shows, old home week and various other activities. The Department has always been quick to respond to any and all calls, both within the borough and from surrounding country, the farthest call being from Ligonier. They have been very successful in combating fire and have not had a total loss within the borough limits for some time. Among apparatus purchased within the year has been an up to date carbon dioxide oxygen inhalator, purchased jointly with Rochester and Pittsburgh Coal Co. This apparatus is of invaluable service in resuscitation from carbon monoxide poisoning, drowning or electrical shock and also in acute stages of pneumonia. The apparatus is available at any time for use by physicians or any one and will be accompanied by some member of the Department qualified to use it.

The present officers are: Harry Flickinger, Chief; John Brillhart, President; Thomas Shaffer, Vice President; E. J. Carson, Secretary; Samuel Sickenberger, Treasurer; Raymond Duncan, Frank Graham, and Carl McGaughey, Trustees.



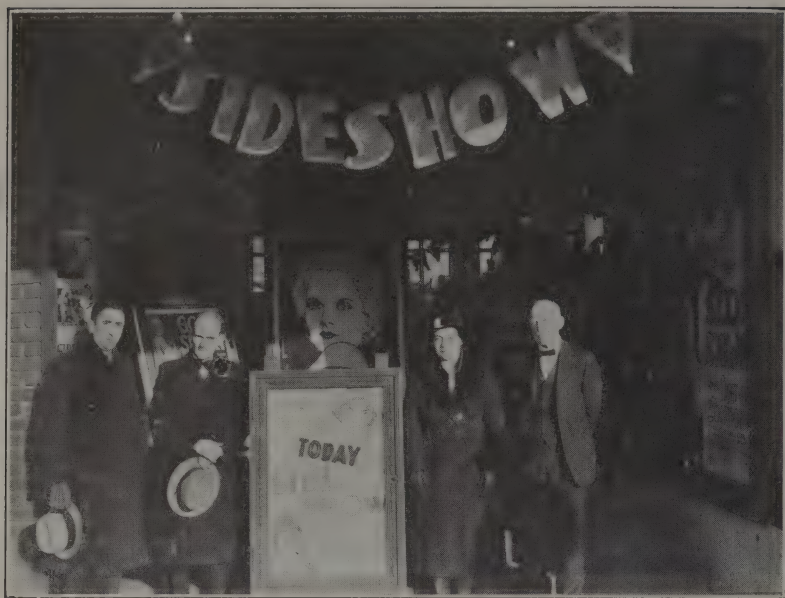


THE HOMER CITY BAND

The Homer City Band was organized for the purpose of helping the Fire Department and other organizations of the town and vicinity.

As a musical organization the Homer City Band ranks high with other bands in surrounding counties.

The officers of the Homer City Band are as follows: President, C. F. Jamison; Vice President, C. C. Baker; Secretary, Joe D'Auelio; Treasurer, Edgar Jamison; Leader, Henry Hobrat; Drum Major, J. S. Roser. Trustees, James Manning, Harry Flickinger and Ralph Kunkle.



EMPIRE THEATRE  
Homer City, Pa.

The Empire Theatre was built and opened for business by E. J. Miller in 1913.

Leased by the Indiana County Theatres Co., Inc., in 1922.

The Empire Theatre is known throughout the Buckwheat Belt for its high class entertainment, and is one of the few small community theatres to keep pace with the fast changing movie industry, made possible by its wide range of patronage and doubly secure by the buying power of its present company, who operate five other leading theatres.

The Empire is the only theatre operated by the Indiana County Theatres Company which has survived the architectural perfection of State requirements of modern play houses, and ranks third in seating capacity in Indiana County, all other houses of twenty years ago being abandoned due to construction that hampered remodeling.

As this brief sovereign history notes the foresight of its builder, we will strive in the future to keep Center Township's entertainment place leading.

The present owners are: S. G. Cummings, R. E. Burdick, John O'Hare, William Lipsie, E. J. Miller. John Lipsie is the local manager.



### SAMUEL SHEFFLER

Only surviving member of the G. A. R. of Homer City  
and Center Township

Samuel Sheffler was born in Westmoreland County, Pa., Dec. 27, 1844. His parents were Philip and Mary Sheffler. Mr. Sheffler came to Center Township with his parents on March 12, 1851—where the Coral Coal Works are now located. At the age of twelve years, he helped his father in the blacksmith shop and, when his father could spare him, he went to school. In those days there were only three months of school in a year. When he was eighteen years old he enlisted in the army, in June 1863, served until September of the same year, when he was honorably discharged. In February 1864, he enlisted again for a period of three years, or during the duration of the war. He was discharged from the Army in 1865, being attached to Company F, 55th Penn-



sylvania Volunteers. In 1872 he bought a farm near Coral. September 14, 1872, he was united in marriage to Rachel M. Bracken. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Sheffler. Mr. Sheffler spent many years farming, on different farms near Coral. He also operated a Chopping Mill and Feed Store. In 1927, Mr. Sheffler came to Homer City and has resided here since that time. Politically, Mr. Sheffler is a Republican and has voted the Party ticket since 1866 when he cast a ballot for General U. S. Grant for President, and since that time, has not missed voting for a President. Mr. Sheffler is a member of the Lutheran church at Luther Chapel, Coral, Pa. He first began attending Sunday School there in 1851 and united with Luther Chapel in church membership in 1876. He served as a member of the Church Council for many years and for many years was Superintendent of the Sunday School. He served as Justice of the Peace of Center Township for sixteen years, School Director for two terms and Postmaster of Coral, Pa., for two years. Although Mr. Sheffler is now in his eighty-eighth year, he seldom misses church services and still teaches a Bible class.

The following is a list of the members of the Major A. J. Bolar Post, No. 533, Grand Army of the Republic, of which Samuel Sheffler is the only surviving member:

Samuel Sheffler	James K. Deamer	Andrew J. Morton
John A. Kerr	Levi X. Fritz	Martin Kier
Dr. John Evans	Stephen Sawyer	R. M. Reed
G. Hill Ogden	J. W. Uncapher	A. J. Miller
Isreal H. Kunkle	Henry Myers	James Hagins
William A. McNutt	Simon H. Drenning	J. N. Pershing
Thomas Varner	Samuel E. Harris	Isaac Griffith
James W. Kerr	William Phillips	Adam Vicroy
N. Oneil	Samuel M. McHenry	Daniel Mooney
Joseph Shank	William Irwin	Elijah McKesson
Harrison Munshower	Henry Fritz	Wm. J. McDonald
William Lucas	W. H. H. Coleman	John Laney
M. Myers	David Shepherd	Thomas Repine
Luman Gilbert	William H. Dickey	W. T. Neil
John K. Myers	Aaron Hendrickson	William Plummer
Jonathan Edwards	W. S. Greer	Rev. A. W. Emmons
David Risinger	William Daugherty	David Weltemire
Abraham Wallace	John H. Devers	John C. Mills
Samuel Mowry	William Buchanon	John S. Evans
Jedidiah Grover	Samuel A. McNutt	Andrew Stitt

## SPANISH AMERICAN WAR VETERANS

1. Joseph Brady Buchanan of Homer City, son of William G. and Ann Thompson Buchanan, was born at Smithport, Indiana County, Pa. He was a member of Co. F, 5th Reg. of Penn'a National Guard. Serving from 1895 to 1898, and with the declaration of war against Spain, volunteered his service and remained with the 5th Penn'a Vol. U. S. Inf. until its muster out Nov. 7, 1898.

2. James S. Kaufman, son of Jacob and Lavina Kaufman, was born and reared at the old home, Center Township, Dec. 31, 1860. Christian Kaufman, his Grandfather, drove across the mountains from Huntingdon County in 1835 and located on the old Thomas White farm, a short distance north of Indiana and from there Jacob Kaufman moved onto the present homestead. James was a National Guardsman from 1887 to 1899 and with the declaration of war with Spain, he offered his service to his country April 1898 and served as 1st Sergeant of Co. F, 5th Penn'a U. S. Volunteers Inf. until the muster out of the regiment, Nov. 1898.

3. M. M. Palmer, M.D., son of Samuel and Maria Campbell Palmer, was born in Burrell Township, Indiana County June 2, 1873. At the call for 300,000 volunteers by President McKinley, he responded by offering his service and joined Co. F, 5th Penn'a Vol. U. S. Inf. at Indiana, June 23, 1898 and remained with the regiment until muster out, Nov. 7, 1898. In 1917, he offered his service for his country and was appointed First Lieutenant, Medical Corps and served in this capacity until the end of the war, 1918.

4. George W. Wakefield of Homer City, son of Jeremiah and Lucinda Wakefield of West Wheatfield Township, Indiana County, was born Mar. 20, 1864 and reared on the old homestead. He was a member of Co. D, 5th Penn'a National Guard for twelve years. When war was declared with Spain Mr. Wakefield offered his service and received a commission as Second Lieutenant. Was a member of Co. D, 5th Penn'a Vol. U. S. Inf. and discharged with the muster out of the regiment, Nov. 7, 1898.

5. John R. Marshall of Graceton, Pa., son of William H. and Jane Hill Marshall, was born in Pine Township near Strongstown Sept. 30, 1876. Mr. Marshall served four three year terms in Co. F, 5th Penn'a N. G. P. In 1898, when the call for volunteers occurred, Mr. Marshall responded and became a full-fledged

soldier, by saying in unison "I do" and joining Co. F, 5th Penn'a Vol. U. S. Inf. at Mt. Gretna. He was mustered out Nov. 7, 1898.

6. Joseph C. White, son of William W. and Jennie Campbell White, born in Center Township, Indiana County, June 13, 1870. He joined the N. G. P. in the spring of 1894, was sworn into U. S. Service April 27, 1898, and mustered out Nov. 7, 1898.

7. H. S. Lydick, son of Joseph M. and Hettie Ellen (Sylvia) Lydick, born in South Mahoning Township, Indiana County, Penn'a, April 23, 1860. Served during the war with Spain as Sergeant of Artillery, Battery B. Light Artillery of Pittsburgh, Pa. Volunteered and mustered in at Mt. Gretna in May 1898 and mustered out with the Battery at Pittsburgh, Pa., in November 1898.



AMERICAN LEGION GROUP, HOMER CITY, PA.





AMERICAN LEGION HALL, HOMER CITY, PA.

AMERICAN LEGION  
Post No. 493, Homer City, Pa.

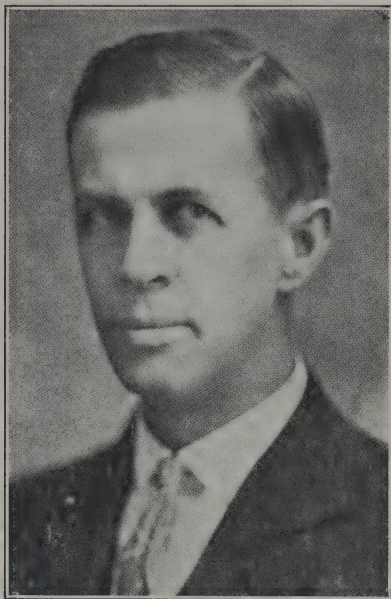
The American Legion was organized October 20, 1920, and received their charter Mar. 18, 1931. The present membership is one hundred and thirty-two. In 1931 the Post led the State of Penn'a in increase of membership over the previous year, being six hundred percent. They received the Thompson Trophy for first place. On October 1st, 1931, they dedicated a new building which is a credit to the county. At the dedication service, it is estimated that the audience consisted of five thousand people. The Post is the first to go over the top in membership for 1932 in the 27th Congressional District. The present officers are: Ralph B. Kunkle, Commander; Chas. Scacikoski, Senior Vice Commander; R. M. Bowser, Junior Vice Commander; William Brown, Adjutant; Herbert Cooper, Treasurer; Chas. Beaver, Chaplain.



AUXILIARY OF AMERICAN LEGION GROUP  
Homer City, Pa.

### THE AUXILIARY OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

The Auxiliary was organized June 29, 1928 with the following officers: President, Mrs. Everett L. Myers; Vice President, Mrs. Lafayette Tuck; Secretary, Miss Belle Lyda; Treasurer, Mrs. Lon Markle; Historian, Mrs. Pearl Mitchell; Chaplain, Mrs. M. M. Palmer; Sergeant-at-Arms, Mrs. Herbert Cooper. Directors: Mrs. C. H. Kirk, Mrs. Carl Delveschio, Mrs. John Scribe, Mrs. Frank Buchanan, Mrs. C. S. Kunkle, Mrs. Mary Myers. The present membership is sixty-nine and the present officers are as follows: President, Mrs. A. H. Lewis; Secretary, Mrs. L. H. Kunkle; Vice President, Mrs. R. B. Kunkle; Treasurer, Mrs. B. E. Myers.



DICK STEPHENS

A grandson of an Early Pioneer

Dickson "Dick" Stephens was born in a log house on a farm in Cherryhill Township, a son of David and Anna Belle (Dickson) Stephens, who died when he was a lad.

Attended night school while working at the carpenter trade, spent several years in Pittsburgh, then returned to Homer City, engaging in contracting, planning and building some of the best buildings of Homer City and vicinity.

In 1915, he opened a Lumber and Builders Supply Yard on Railroad Avenue, which was a part of J. M. Guthrie Lumber Co.'s Yard, where he is now engaged in the Lumber and Builders' Supply Business.

Practicing the principles of honesty, uprightness and hard work, helped him build up a nice business, not forgetting the principles taught by his parents, who were of the Methodist faith.

He is very grateful to his wife, Mrs. Louella (Risinger) Stephens and the following children: Dorothy Belle, who is a member of the faculty of the Homer City High School, Lowell Risinger, who is with the Standard Sanitary Mfg. Co. located at present in New York City, and Sarah Louella, a graduate nurse of Indiana Training School for Nurses, for their untiring efforts and aid in helping him make it pleasant for others.



## HOMER CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The first school in Homer City borough was built about 1885 on Ridge Avenue. The building was a one room frame structure to which was added a second room several years later.

When these two rooms became crowded a plot of ground was bought and a four room school building erected in 1892. This building is still in use. In 1898 a four room addition was built to the building forming the present frame building used by the children of the lower grades. These eight rooms were sufficient to house the schools for several years.

In 1920 the school again became crowded and a four room brick building was erected, and in 1923 a four room addition was built to this. These rooms were filled with children as soon as they were ready for use, and in 1927 it became necessary to make some further provision for room.

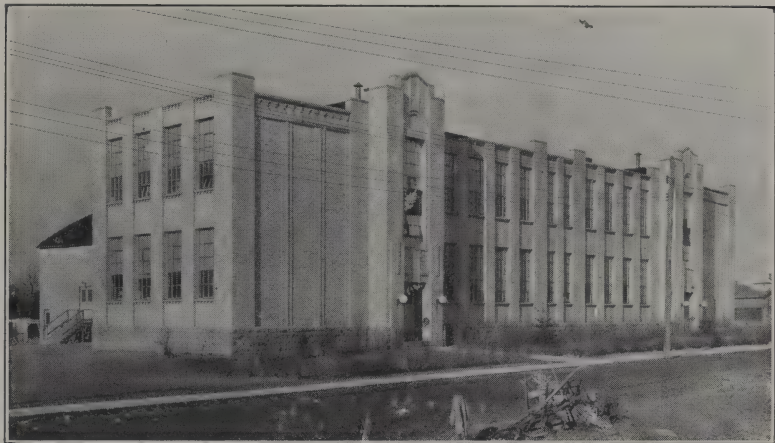
Plans were made for the building of a modern High School building, a bond issue of fifty five thousand dollars was voted, and the present High School building was erected. This building contains eight class rooms and a combined auditorium-gymnasium.

For many years the schools of Homer City provided the children with an opportunity to secure an eighth grade education. However in 1908, through the efforts of the school board, a two years High School course was organized, the first class of four members graduating in 1909. In 1913 a third years work was added to the course, and finally in 1919 the fourth year was added and the school was classified as a first class High School by the State Department of Public Instruction. The growth of the High School has been rapid and at present the enrollment is about three hundred twenty.

Graduates from our schools are at present accepted by all colleges and universities in the state of Pennsylvania and by many schools in other states. We have had representatives in at least twenty-three different colleges in the states of Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio, Maryland, and the District of Columbia, during the last few years.

The faculty of the schools is made up of the following teachers for the year 1931-32:

Miss Laura Rankin, Miss Harriet Alexander, Miss Jean Blyth, Miss Mildred Wineman, Miss Minnie Hiner, Miss Mary Truby, Miss Trudell Hiner, Miss Dora Caldwell, Miss Vera Bartlebaugh, Miss Nellie Empfield, Mrs. Hope Keating, Miss Leonia Killen, Miss Bertha Brickell, Miss Alice McCrea, Miss Virginia Flickinger, Miss Lorraine Jeffrey, Miss Ruth Tinker, Miss Roberta Johnson, Miss Dorothy Stephens, Miss Elizabeth White, Mr. Ira Holsopple, Mr. William Smith, and Mr. J. S. Byers.



HOMER CITY HIGH SCHOOL



PROF. J. S. BYERS

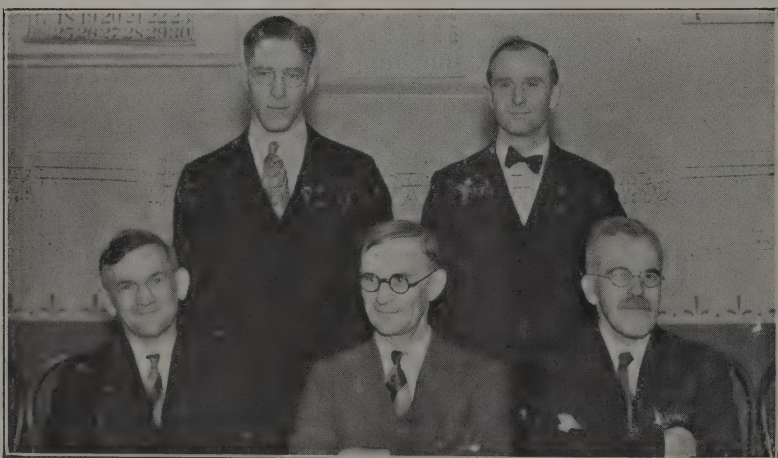
Supervising Principal of the Schools of Homer City

Prof. J. S. Byers was born in Independence, Washington County, Pa., Aug. 15, 1892. The family moved to Homer City April 17, 1899. He attended the grade schools and the two year High School in Homer City, graduating in 1909. He attended Grove City College and graduated in the class of 1916. He taught school in Green Township, Indiana County, in the school year of 1916-17. He was elected Principal of the Homer City school

in the spring of 1917, which position he still occupies. Prof. Byers is a member of the State and National Educational Associations and of the Lion's Club of Homer City, being the President of the Club. He is a good citizen, interested in the welfare of the community.

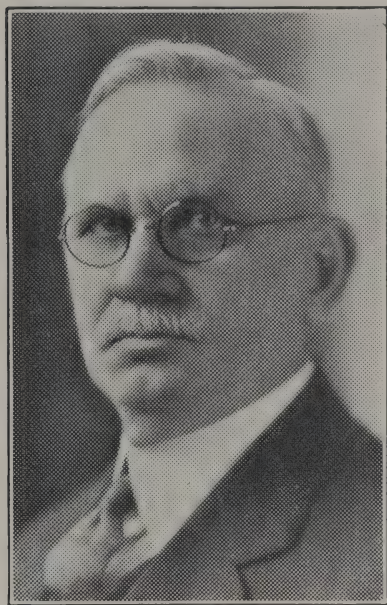


HOMER CITY SCHOOL TEACHERS 1931-32



HOMER CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION



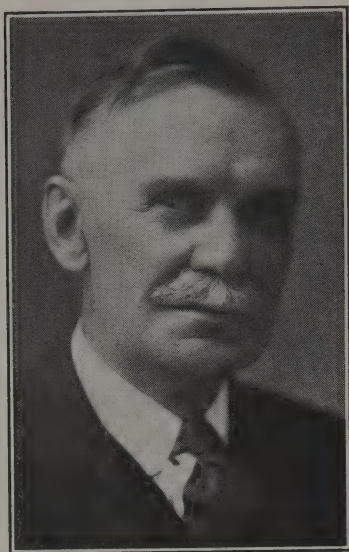


NATHAN L. STRONG

Brookville, Pa.

Representative in Congress from 27th Congressional District

Nathan Leroy Strong, a Representative from Pennsylvania; born in Summerville, Jefferson County, Pa.; ancestors came to America in 1630; descendant of a signer of the Declaration of Independence; attended public school; telegraph operator and railroad agent; read law, admitted to the bar, to the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania and the Supreme Court of United States; district attorney for Jefferson County, 1895-1901; engaged in developing mineral lands in Jefferson and Armstrong Counties, which caused the building of a railroad through the Congressional District he represents; elected as a Republican to the Sixty-fifth to Seventy-second Congresses, inclusive, 1917-1933; majority when elected to the Sixty-fifth Congress, 6,951, which majority increased with each succeeding election to 36,435; member of the Committee of Rivers and Harbors since March 4, 1919, and now actively working for the improvement of inland waterways in Pennsylvania, particularly the Allegheny, Kiskiminetas and Conemaugh Rivers, which flow through or border Armstrong, President Jefferson County Agricultural Association; Member Pennsylvania Society of New York, Pennsylvania Society of Washington, D.C., Kittanning Country Club, Pine Crest Country Club of Brookville; Mason, Shriner, Elk, and Knight of Pythias.



ELDER PEELOR

Indiana, Pa.

Representative in the Legislature from Indiana County

Elder Peelor was born in Armstrong Township, Indiana County, April 30, 1859; educated in the common schools, Indiana State Normal School and University of Michigan; is an attorney-at-law; served as Prothonotary and Clerk of the Courts of Indiana County from 1894 to 1900; elected to the House of Representatives in 1922; re-elected in 1924, 1926, 1928 and 1930. He has been a member of the M. E. Church since early life and a teacher in the Sunday-school. He has rendered valuable service to the community in which he resides.



CHAS. R. GRIFFITH

Marion Center, Pa.

Representative in the Legislature from Indiana County

Chas. R. Griffith was born at Marion Center and has lived there all his life. Mr. Griffith has been a member of the M. E. Church since early boyhood and has lived a life of usefulness to his community and his state. He received his education in the local public schools and summer institutes. At the age of 19, while yet in school, he became owner and publisher of the Marion Center Independent, and, with the exception of four years, 1927 to 1931, has been and now is holding that position; was elected to the State Legislature in 1922, re-elected in 1924, 1926, 1928 and 1930; has served from the first on the following important committees: Agricultural, Highways (Chairman in 1929), Banks and Banking, and Ways and Means. He has also served on other committees at different sessions, (Chairman of Building and Loans in 1931).



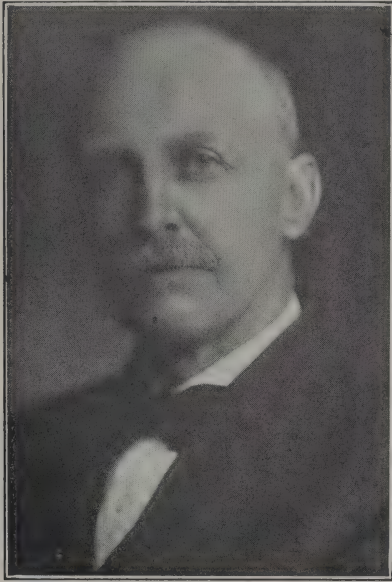


W. L. HUTCHINSON

Homer City, Pa.

Justice of the Peace and Attorney-at-law

W. L. Hutchinson was born in East Wheatfield Township, Indiana County, Penn'a., near Armagh, 1873, attended the Public Schools in East Wheatfield Township and Select Schools under the tutorship of Campbell and Steward until he became efficient enough to teach. He taught in Armagh Borough and in the County several terms, after which he took a course in the State Normal at Indiana and from there took a course in the Law School at Valparaiso. After returning from Valparaiso, he took the preliminary examination of law at Indiana, Penn'a., and was a student of law in the office of Hon. S. J. Telford, President Judge of Indiana County; was admitted to the bar of Indiana County and also of Cambria County, Penn'a. The study of law, at that time, did not appeal to him and he went out West. Returning some few years later, he located in Homer City and was elected Justice of the Peace, in which position he is still active. He is also a practitioner of law in Homer City, Penn'a.



E. J. MILLER

Merchant, Farmer and Dairyman, Homer City, Pa.

E. J. Miller, son of the late Samuel Bradlee and Jane Pollock Miller of Grant Township, Indiana County, Pa., came with his parents to Center Township, near Graceton, to what was known as the Samuel Cummings farm. On Oct. 27, 1887, he married Mary Emma Rankin, daughter of Nicholas Sharretts and Clarinda Cribbs Rankin of Center Township. They are the parents of three children: Edward and Helen (Mrs. Roy Baker) of Homer City and Wendell of Durham, N.C. In 1892 Mr. Miller began a wholesale meat market business and in 1895 established a retail meat market. He also established a meat market business in Indiana which he conducted for ten and one-half years. Mr. Miller became a resident of Homer City in 1898 and since that time has been active in the development of the town. He was interested in, and helped build, the Mark's Department store, the Homer City National Bank, Commercial Hotel, Empire Theatre building. He served as a member of the town Council for ten years (president of Council for nine years) and later served as member of Council for three years. He served as a member of the School Board and, for twenty-three years, as a director of the Bank (eight years as President of the Board of Directors of the Bank). The first cement walk was laid during his term in Council and the first block was laid in front of what is now the Empire Theatre. Mr. Miller is a member of the Lutheran Church. He is interested in the religious and civic welfare of the community in which he resides.



HOMER CITY LION'S CLUB



The Lion's Club was organized and chartered Dec. 9, 1929.

At present there are twenty-two active members, three members at large and one honorary, the Hon. John S. Fisher, Ex-governor of Pennsylvania.

The Lion's Club has been of service to the community for the past two years, having sponsored a yard and garden contest, which has caused many homes to be made beautiful and yards and gardens to be kept in fine condition. Homer City has many beautiful homes, but the contest has helped to improve the town very much. Many things have been done by the Lions to help others. A fund is being created to equip a modern community play ground.

Present Officers: President, J. S. Byers; First Vice President, J. C. Thomas; Second Vice President, B. F. Harris; Third Vice President, H. E. Kerr; Directors, C. H. Kirk, O. M. Lockard, Geo. Douglas, and C. E. Held.





CRYSTAL DAIRY &amp; ICE CO.



Harry Schall, Mgr.

Ice was first manufactured in Homer City in 1914. Milk was first pasteurized in Homer City in 1915. Harry Schall, manager of the Crystal Dairy & Ice Co. and owner of the plant for the past five years, was born and spent his entire life in Homer City. He is a direct descendant of Lieut. Michael Schall, Sr., who served in the Penn'a Militia during the Revolutionary War. Mr. Schall is a member of the Sons of the American Revolution. Also, a member of the Lion's Club and other organizations. He is interested in the welfare of his home town.



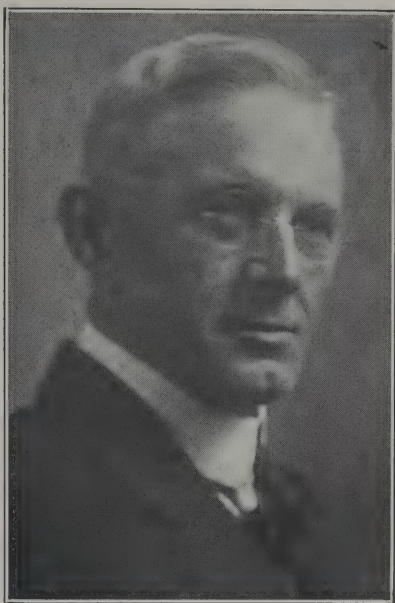
THE HOME OF L. H. E. WILL AND HIS BAKERY

Louis H. E. Will was born in Alsace Lorraine, Germany on December 25, 1865. When a mere youth, he left his native soil to seek whatever fortune awaited him in America. He located in Pittsburgh, Pa., on the 12th day of June, 1892, working in his chosen trade, baking.

While there he met Miss Carrie Kaerner, whom he later married. His wife, being afflicted with ill health, their search for a more healthful climate brought them to Homer City in the summer of 1905.

August 15th, 1905, found the family located in the Old Ogden building, where Mr. Will set up a small bakery. Nine years later, having become firmly attached to his adopted community, he built his present bakery.

For over a quarter of a century, he has given unselfish service to his community and co-operated whole heartedly with his fellow citizens in its steady advancement.



JAS. L. NIX SKETCH

James Love Nix was born on a farm in Madison County, Illinois, Dec. 23, 1863. His boyhood school days were spent at the old Quercus District school with two years at school in St. Louis, having a strong desire to take a mechanical engineering course in a Technical School. As is usually the case, no money was available for such purposes, and the subject of this sketch entered the poultry business, to make some quick easy money. The incubator for hatching had to be built. In three years of discouragement, thirty models were built before a single chick was hatched. When a working model was finally built, it was so successful that many were built and sold to the farmers' wives in the neighborhood. In 1886, it was put on the market. In October 1887, Mr. Nix moved to Homer City and the manufacture of incubators began with Mr. S. W. Guthrie, now of Indiana, and the late Mr. A. F. Cooper of Pittsburgh, composing the firm. The business continued to expand for many years and over twenty-five patents were taken out during that period. Mr. Nix was married to Anna T. McConaughey of Homer City, Pa., May 20, 1890. There were three daughters from this union: Mrs. W. Reed Morris of Orange, N.J.; Mrs. A. O. Buntin of Huntington, W. Va.; and Ruth Nix of Delta, Colorado. The mother of these girls died in 1904. Mr. Nix was married to Belle V. McConaughey of Ligonier, Pa., in 1905. Mr. Nix is an active member of the M. E. church of Homer City, Pa., and Superintendent of the Sunday School.

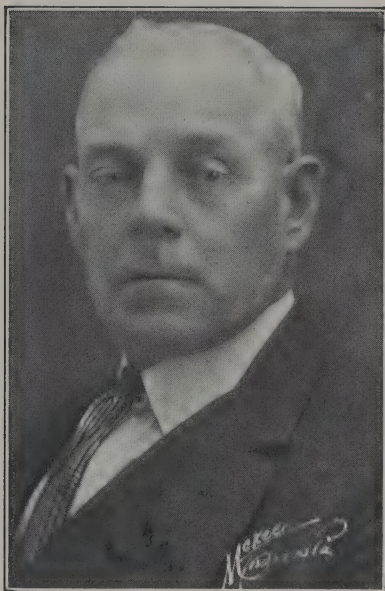




JOHN C. BRILHART'S STORE

One of Homer City's Leading Grocers

John C. Brillhart was born July 29, 1887, in North Mahoning Township, Indiana County. He came to Homer City, Friday, Dec. 26, 1913, and worked as a clerk for Harry Flickinger in his grocery and furniture store. On March 16, 1916, he purchased the grocery stock from Mr. Flickinger and started in the grocery business in the same room. He was there until April of the same year, when he moved to the Mary Kier building, now occupied by Dan Harmon's five and ten cent store and continued in business there until May 1920, when he sold the building to A. M. Adams. He then bought the building at the corner of Main and Ridge Ave. from B. F. Harris and brother, where he is continuing business. Mr. Brillhart is President of the Fire Company; a member of the School Board and Lion's Club, and is interested in the Country's welfare.



CALVIN S. KUNKLE  
A Homer City Business Man

Calvin S. Kunkle; born Oct. 11, 1867, on farm in Young township, Indiana County (near Jacksonville). Came to Homer City in 1886 and worked for H. C. English; married Margaret Myers in 1889; 1914 opened a retail lumber yard on location formerly used by Prairie State Incubator Co. (now known as Kunkle Ave). After seven years on this site the yard was moved to the Evans property in 1921, near the P. R. R. Station. In 1928 Mr. Kunkle purchased the J. K. Myers property which joins his lumber yard. This now gives him the entire triangle for his business. Mr. Kunkle is still actively engaged in the real estate business. His office, located at 223 N. Main street, has a branch for Fire and Casualty Insurance.

Lisle H. Kunkle, an active young man of our community, has been affiliated with his father in the different branches of business for the past 12 years, the trade name for the past seven-years being "C. S. Kunkle Lumber Company."

The office is joined with a retail Hardware store, in which may be seen one of the largest and most complete paint stocks of the county. They have a complete line of builder's hardware along with other hardware.

They have about everything in the building line that you would need for a home. Their slogan is "Service plus Quality."



JOHNSTON BROS. GARAGE, HOMER CITY, PA.

Harry Johnston, Senior member of the firm of Johnston Bros., began the Garage business in 1915, in Homer City, Pa., and for a number of years was very successful. In 1924, he received his brother into the business as a partner and later his nephew, Charles Johnson, who is a member of the firm, using the name of Johnston Bros.

Their line of business consists of automobile accessories, gasoline, oils and greases, hauling of wrecked cars and repairing. They also represent Chevrolet Sales and Service.





### LAFAYETTE TUCK

A citizen of Homer City

Lafayette Tuck was born May 20, 1875, at Diamondville, Indiana County, Pa. His parents were C. W. and Nora L. Tuck. His father came to Homer City in 1882 to be foreman for J. M. Guthrie Sawmill. In 1927, he was made General Superintendent of the Cosgrove-Meehan Company, operating in Cambria, Indiana and Somerset Counties, Pennsylvania, and Marion County, West Virginia. Mr. Tuck married Miss Mabel Lockard of Homer City in 1897. Mr. and Mrs. Tuck have three children: H. A. Tuck, who is a World War veteran and lives in Pittsburgh where he is a representative of the Pittsburgh Gauge and Supply Company; Lester W. Tuck, who is connected with the Farmers Bank and Trust Company of Indiana, Pa., and Murray Tuck, who graduated from Penn'a State College in June 1931 and lives with his parents at Omar, West Virginia, where Mr. Tuck is the General Supt. of the West Virginia Coal and Coke Corporation. Mr. Tuck is a member of the Presbyterian Church of Homer City, Lodge 313 F. & A. M., New Castle Consistory, Altoona Shrine, Lodge No. 13 I. O. O. F. of Homer City, member of Homer City Chamber of Commerce, and Lion's Club. For twelve years he was executive of the Indiana County Council Boy Scouts of America and a Director of Indiana County, Pa., Coal Mining Institute. He is interested in several banks and is a Director of the Homer City National Bank. Mr. Tuck has always interested himself in the welfare of his home town.



HOMER CITY FEED MILL

Thomas K. George was born in Blacklick Township, Indiana County, on December 23, 1876, on the Ackerson farm. He was a son of Adam and Mary King George. He left the old homestead with his parents at the age of two years and moved to Brushvalley, where he lived for twenty-seven years, or until the coal boom. He sold his possessions there and came to Homer City where he bought the Homer City Feed Mill from Uber and Stephens. His mother died in 1908, at the age of seventy-two years and his father died in 1912 at the age of eighty-five years. Mr. George was the youngest of ten children. He has now one brother, J. W. George of West Point, Miss., and a sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Stewart of Homer City. Twenty years ago he bought a piece of ground from the Robert Griffith farm, which at present is a fruit farm. When the orchard was nine years old, he raised thirteen hundred bushels of apples and two hundred and fifty bushels of peaches. Last fall he got eight thousand bushels of apples and three hundred bushels of peaches. Mr. George is a firm believer in God, who doeth all things well, and remembers that the one-tenth belongs to God. He attributes health and prosperity as having its source in the Giver of every good and perfect thing. Mr. George, in his feed mill business, handles every kind of feed, flour, grain, hay, fertilizer and mashes. Thus he is able to furnish supplies to farmers, dairymen, chicken raisers, as well as flour, buckwheat and cornmeal to all people.



GEORGE H. KERR

George H. Kerr is a son of the late John A. and Mary B. Kerr, still living. He attended the Risinger and Homer City Schools and taught school in the County from 1897 to 1900. On June 1, 1900, Mr. Kerr entered the service of the Penn'a R. R. at Bessemer, Pa., where he served in various positions until 1904, when he was advanced to the position of rate clerk in the General Freight office in Pittsburgh, Pa. In 1907, he became Traveling Freight Agent and in 1909 he became agent of the Eastern & Southern Dispatch, a fast freight line operated by the Penn'a R. R. and Southern Railway. When this line was abolished in 1912, he became Commercial Agent of the Southern Railway at Pittsburgh, Pa., and two years later was transferred to a similar position at Atlanta, Ga. In 1917, he was promoted to Assistant General Freight Agent at Atlanta and in 1912, when the South Eastern Express Company was organized, he was made Traffic manager at Cincinnati, Ohio, which position he still occupies.

In 1908, Mr. Kerr married Miss Irene Cooper, a daughter of the late A. F. Cooper, and they have two children, Dan, age 22 and Gladys, age 20. They make their home in Cincinnati, Ohio.



## REMEMBER WHEN

Two bad Homer City boys stuffed a soiled shirt into the exhaust pipe of the gas engine which furnished the power for Harry Berry's printing press and the local newspaper omitted one complete weekly edition. The trouble was righted only when a gas engine expert was procured from the city and, after a minute examination, discovered the shirt and removed it.

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Smith Baughman had that terrible "vibratin" automobile. When he started it up at his blacksmith shop, the dishes would rattle in the cupboards in the other end of town.

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One of the street cars of the Indiana County Street Railways Company left Homer City for Blairsville, a run which ordinarily required about forty minutes, but a snow storm set in and the car arrived in Homer City, on the return trip, exactly fourteen days later.

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Herman McCulloch shot Bert Kane with a blank cartridge, inflicting an inconvenient but not serious wound on a vital part of Bert's anatomy.

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Paul Campbell had his neck broken (it proved to be not so serious after Paul had regained consciousness) by being catapulted through the door at Bert Kanes serenade.

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John Taylor (colored) attended a corn roast held in a thicket on the bank of Yellow Creek, the corn being procured from the field of Mr. John Philips while he was not present, but Jimmy Jamison discovered the plot, sneaked up and put on such a good imitation of Mr. Philips calling his bloodhound that the "cul-lud" boy broke all "two mile run records." The heaviest material loss of the party was two pounds of butter which was being carried by the Taylor boy, who in his mad rush to escape the wrath of Mr. Philips, had fallen several times and the butter, which was intended to enhance the flavor of the succulent roasting ears, only served to grease his dusky skin.

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Bill Dicky, Peggy Robertson, Shiner Betts, Pascault and others made a night pilgrimage to the beer stores at the County seat. Pascault and others walked home, via. Pennsylvania railroad tracks, arriving at 3:00 A.M., but the balance of the party, after several unsuccessful starts and considerable street fighting which was brought on by an argument over the artistic merits of

their respective lady friends, wended their way to some of the better class hostelrys, where they were refused admission on account of their extreme dilapidated condition. The boys were all home, however, by the next evening safe and sound, except for the loss of a hat or two and the skin from the side of Peggy's face which he had lost by sliding on the brick pavement during one of the numerous fistic encounters.

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Supie Reed was securely bound and gagged and carried to Lawrence Taylor's barber shop and the barber ordered to shave the right half of Supie's head, leaving the other side intact, but his mother did not approve of the efficiency of the tonsorial work and he was ordered to return at once to the same shop, have the left side done likewise and the cost of the work charged to the proprietor of the livery stable who had promoted the dastardly act.

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Kellysburg baseball team came to town to play the local nine. Ninety percent of the team was named McElhoes and each wore a mustache, but how they could play baseball. They made thirty-two runs in one inning and if merciful darkness had not intervened and stopped the slaughter, it is hard to tell what the score might have been.

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Several hundred foreign born miners gathered in the old Ogden store room for the purpose of forming a miner's union. Most of the men were of a high strung, nervous disposition and, when a bad boy heaved a brick through the plate glass in the rear of the building, they vacated pell-mell, taking with them the entire forty-foot front. It was reported that many of them caught up with and passed the local passenger train in their haste to get to their homes at Lucerne, one and one-half miles away.

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John Rhodes and Wash Elricks, who is one hundred years of age and still living in the county, were employes of Jas. S. Flickinger and could always be found of an evening on the large stone upping block in front of Mr. Flickinger's store bandying each other on their respective abilities to write poetry, drink hard liquor and other accomplishments too numerous to mention.

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The town bastille, or Borough lock-up, was located in the old one story building, at the corner of Main and Indiana Sts., on the bank of Twolick Creek and was named Fort McDonald, in honor of Bill McDonald, the one-armed itinerary meat merchant, who had occupied it on numerous occasions, as a prisoner, on charges

of being drunk and blood-thirsty.

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Goose Marshall was hauled home dead from a coasting upset on Brandon's Hill, but when the party which was hauling him arrived at the hotel corner, the dead man jumped from the sled, gave them a loud horse laugh and disappeared up the side street.

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Samuel Cresswell carried the Mail to and from the Postoffice which was in McConnaughey's store to the several trains.

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Harry Kerr had a corner on the Dray business of the town, his equipment consisting of a light wagon and a totally blind black horse, eventually getting a sorrel which he named Raven Boy because of his "tarnally ravin" for hay and oats.

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John and Andy Evans lead the Memorial Day parades, playing drum and fife respectively with a dignity akin to reverence.

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The National Guard encamped at Lucerne in 1911 and the uniformed vocalists took turns with the Brigade band in rendering popular airs, among them Mandalay, Rebecca of Sunny Brook Farm and Some of These Days.

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Frank Jennings, the up-country colored farmer was a familiar sight on our streets, riding his donkey.

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James Hagans, Civil War veteran, greeted everyone as "kind neighbor," or "comrade."

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Fat Scott had a long series of operations and expressed the fear that he would soon be all cut away.

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Alice Rumbaugh was the star rooter at the Trolley League baseball games, let's see that was about 1910, or 1911.

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Doc (Roy) St. Clair, the star first baseman of the local baseball team became famous for his Texas league base hits.

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Clark Ogden serenaded his one time sweetheart with a number of home made cannon made from gas pipe and charged with blasting powder.

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When the Empire theatre was opened with a home talent show, directed by W. P. Risinger and starring Mabel Tuck, Goldie Cameron, Celia Morgan, Henry Elden, Clyde Shaffer and Lucas Kinter (most twenty years ago).



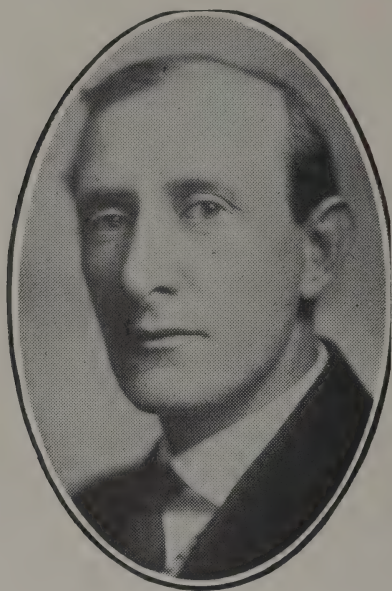


JESSE D. GEORGE'S STORE  
Homer City, Pa.

The name of Jesse D. George has been closely associated with the retail business of Homer City for the past 36 years. The son of Ruben and Martha (Makin) George, he was born in Garrett, Somerset County, Pennsylvania, and when quite young came to Indiana County. His father operated the mill at Campbell's Mills. After working as a lad in a brick yard at Black Lick and later on the J. M. Guthrie saw mill, near here, he located in Homer City.

November 30, 1896 Mr. George opened a restaurant in a small building on the northeast bank of Yellow Creek. His business soon outgrew the little store and six years later he moved to a new building on the opposite side of the street, where he remained until April 1st, 1924, when the building was sold. The store was then consolidated with another store which he had opened in the Adams Building on South Main Street, in 1918. Mr. George continued in this location until April 1st, 1929, when he moved to a modern two-story brick building on Church Street, thus fulfilling a long-cherished ambition to own his own store building.

Mr. George has taken an active part in the growth of Homer City, having been one of the original members of the board of directors of the Homer City National Bank and served for a time on the Town Council.



EARL G. WEAMER  
Homer City, Pa.

Earl G. Weamer was born Aug. 8, 1882, in South Mahoning Township, Indiana County, Pa., the son of George Washington Weamer, a veteran of the Civil War who died in 1917 and Elizabeth Eyler Weamer, who is still living and is now eighty-four years old. He attended the district school and several sessions of summer school. He taught two terms in Center Township. He attended Pennsylvania College of Embalming at Pittsburgh, Pa. He married Miss Jeannette Iseman of Kent, Indiana Co., Pa., in 1905. Mr. and Mrs. Weamer are the parents of the following children: June, Ferne, Margarette, Eugene, Winifred, Clarence, Olyn and Isabelle. Mr. Weamer came to Homer City in 1903 and engaged in the Undertaking and Embalming business in 1905. He resides at the corner of Elm and Grant Sts. Mr. Weamer is a member of Trinity Lutheran Church, Homer City, Pa.



HOMER CITY M. E. CHURCH  
Built 1837



HOME OF HARRY E. KERR

Built on the lot where the Old Log M. E. Church stood and contains the corner-stone of the Old Log Church





### HOMER CITY M. E. CHURCH

Built 1855

### HISTORY OF METHODISM IN HOMER CITY

In 1825, the same year that the Pittsburgh Conference was organized, the Rev. Mr. Conley, commonly known as "Father Conley," a local preacher, visited the neighborhood now known as Homer City and preached in the home of William Bracken, ultimately organizing a society. William Bracken became the class leader and died the same year. Services were then held in the homes in the neighborhood, but principally in the home of Mrs. Mary Bonner on the Mechanicsburg Road. Later, services were held in the Upper Homer schoolhouse. Prayer and class meetings were sometimes held from house to house. The original members of Methodism in Homer City were as follows: William Bracken and wife; Mary Bonner and her daughters, Elizabeth and Jennie; Robert Montgomery and wife, his two sisters, Jane and Margaret; John Mullen and wife and his sister Jennie; William McKesson and wife; William Dickie and wife; Robert McKesson and his sister Sarah; Michael Risinger and wife; Benona Williams and wife; and William McKee and wife. The "log meeting house," the congregation's first home, was the first church in Homer City. It was started during the year of 1837 and was dedicated in the year 1840 on the lot where the home of Harry E. Kerr is now located on Church street. The original corner stone of the "log meeting house" was placed as the corner stone



HOMER CITY M. E. CHURCH AND PARSONAGE



REV. R. H. LING  
 Pastor of M. E. Church, Homer City, Pa.

in the home of H. E. Kerr, retaining the original date. A brick church was commenced in 1855 on the corner of Main and Church streets and was finished and dedicated in 1856 at a cost of \$1,000. This building was razed in 1907 and a fine edifice in Romanesque style was built at a cost of \$17,500. The following pastors have served: 1825, Revs. Mr. Conley and J. B. West; 1826, J. Stricker and G. W. Robinson; 1827-28, S. Tudor and N. Little; 1829, A. Coleman and J. K. Miller; 1830-31 C. Thorn; 1832, J. G. Sansom and J. Martin; 1833, N. Callender; 1834, J. Thompson; 1835, E. W. Worthington; 1836, G. D. Kinnear and H. Bradshaw; 1837, S. Elliot and L. McClaskey; 1838-39, J. Coil, D. Gordon and J. Ray; 1840-41, J. L. Williams, J. Graham and J. Shaw; 1842, C. Foster and D. S. Welling; 1843, A. C. Gallahue and R. J. White;

1844, R. J. White and R. W. Barnes; 1845, J. White and G. W. Cranage; 1846, J. White and E. B. Griffin; 1847-48, M. L. Weekly, D. A. Haines, J. Woodroffe and D. B. D. Coleman; 1849-50, Joseph Shaw; 1951-52, D. B. Campbell and J. R. Means; 1853, Joseph Horner; 1854-55, T. J. Higgins; 1856, H. L. Chapman; 1857-58, J. S. Bracken; 1859-60, S. Burt; 1861, J. S. High; 1862-63, R. Morrow; 1864-66, M. W. Dallas; 1867-68, J. B. Uber; 1869-70, J. S. Wakefield; 1871-72, R. Jordon; 1873-74, T. J. Kurtz; 1875-76, A. C. Johnson; 1877-78, C. W. Miller; 1879-81, Solomon Keebler; 1882-84, W. A. Stewart; 1885, W. Johnson; 1886-87, J. B. Uber; 1888-1892, J. N. Pershing; 1893, A. J. Altsman; 1894, A. P. Leonard; 1895, J. E. Kidney; 1896-97, H. J. Hickman; 1898-99, G. H. Huffman; 1900-02, J. E. Inskeep; 1903-05, S. B. Laverty; 1906, L. W. LePage; 1907-09, F. A. Richards; 1910-12, J. C. Burnworth; 1913-15, C. A. Hartung; 1916-17, A. H. Davies; 1918-20, C. L. Moore; 1921-23, T. F. Chilcote; 1924-25, C. H. Reckard; 1926-27, D. L. Headlee; 1928-32, R. H. Ling. The surviving pastors who have served are as follows: L. W. LePage, J. C. Burnworth, C. A. Hartung, C. L. Moore, T. F. Chilcote, and R. H. Ling.

The present church was incorporated April 20, 1908, with the following Official Board: Trustees, J. L. Nix, B. B. McConaughy, Harry Flickinger, J. M. Carson, J. D. George, G. M. Bell, J. B. Grover, B. F. Wineman, and D. L. Snyder; Stewards, G. H. Dobson, J. E. Kunkle, J. A. Kerr, Dick Stephens, Harry Trusal, M. H. Risinger, A. M. Welchonce, H. R. Grumbling, J. W. Evans, S. H. Drenning, J. S. Evans and Clark Myers.

The present Official Board consists of the following: Trustees, Dick Stephens, J. B. Cramer, J. D. George, D. E. Risinger, Harry Flickinger, John Carson, F. A. Opdyke, J. S. Byers, and A. A. Weaver; Stewards, J. E. Kunkle, G. W. Wakefield, Daniel Harmon, W. O. Dillinger, Thomas Jeffrey, John Brilhart, W. L. Hutchinson, Arthur Frederick, J. F. Waterson, Oliver McKee, John Larsen, David Gilhouser, C. F. Jamison, Ralph Kunkle, L. H. Kunkle, Edward Potts, Hudson Grumbling, G. E. Penman and A. M. Welchonce. Church School Superintendent, J. L. Nix; Epworth League President, Dorothy Stephens; President of W. F. M. S., Mrs. B. B. McConaughy; President of the Golden Gleaners Aid Class, Mrs. Frank A. Johnston; Superintendent of the King's Heralds, Mrs. Mae Jewett Frye; Directors of the Junior Church, Lorraine Jeffrey and Audrey Ruddock.

The present membership of the church is 346 and the enrollment of the church school 409.

The first parsonage at Homer City was built in the year 1874 and was sold to J. E. Kunkle and removed to the adjoining lot in the year 1931. The new parsonage was erected during the year of 1930 at a cost of \$8,000 with many donations. The estimated value is placed at \$10,000.





TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, HOMER CITY, PA.

Trinity Lutheran Church was organized February 21, 1871, with twenty-eight members, by Dr. R. A. Fink. On October 6, 1872, the present church building was dedicated. In the year 1923 a new parsonage was built at a cost of about \$7500.00. The pastors who have served are as follows: Rev. S. P. Snyder, 1871-1874; Rev. Augustus Babb, D.D., 1874-1875; Rev. C. L. Streamer, 1876-1878; Rev. C. T. Steck, 1878-1882; Rev. W. E. Cribbs, 1883-1884; Rev. J. W. Reese, 1885-1889; Rev. J. W. Shaeffer, 1889-1897; Rev. G. L. Courtney, 1898-1900; Rev. J. W. Shaeffer (second term), 1900-1919; Rev. P. J. C. Glatzert, 1920-1921; Rev. E. L. Ritchie, 1922-1929. The present Pastor, the Rev. Chas. E. Held, came Nov. 1, 1929. Present Church membership: Baptized 378, Confirmed 291, Sunday School enrollment 190.



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
Homer City, Pa.

By appointment of Kittanning Presbytery, a committee consisting of Rev. A. McElwain, Rev. Franklin Orr and Elder W. B. Marshall met at Homer City, July 21, 1870, and organized a church.

Messrs. Joseph Griffith, Joseph Douthitt and John Barkley were elected and ordained Ruling Elders.

The following ministers have served the congregation: Rev. D. G. Robinson, Rev. John S. Axtell, Rev. T. R. Ewing, Rev. John Gourley, Rev. J. H. Bausman, Rev. R. H. Fulton, Rev. A. W. Emmons, Rev. Geo. G. Burns, Rev. J. R. Morris, Ph.D., Rev. R. J. Roberts, and the present pastor, Rev. Harry C. Prugh, Ph.D.

Elders serving the church: Joseph Griffith, Joseph Douthitt, John Barkley, Walter B. George, Reese R. Ellis, Geo. H. Ogden, J. S. Flickinger, John P. St. Clair, Wm. G. Hovis, Thomas Simpson, E. B. Stuchell, J. Harvey George.

The present staff of Elders: W. W. Coup, Clerk of Session; L. H. E. Will, Harvey S. Kissinger, Wm. H. George, Geo. L. Douglass, W. C. Crawford and John Harris.

Trustees now serving: Harvey S. Kissinger, Treas.; Homer Robertson, Daniel Caldwell, Thos. Lucas, Chas. Coup, Francis E. Kauffman, Wayne George and Clark George.

Present active roll of members 229; Sabbath School enrollment 225. Superintendent of Sunday School, Hans Adair.



### UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, HOMER CITY, PA.

On September 20, 1855, Rev. M. H. Wilson, and elders George Lowman and Samuel Wilson, under authority of Blairsville Presbytery of the Associated Reformed Presbyterian Church, organized the Centre Congregation, which congregation, since June 17, 1873, has been known as the Homer City United Presbyterian Church.

The early pastors of the congregation were Rev. M. H. Wilson, 1855-; Rev. Joseph C. Greer, 1857-65; Rev. D. M. McClellan, 1867-73; Rev. Henry Q. Graham, 1874-. The present house of worship of the congregation was dedicated August 1, 1869. The first trustees serving in the new building were Martin Kier, Robert Carson, Peter Kinter. One of the first resolutions adopted by the congregation was that the pews be free.

Some of the other pastors of the congregation have been Rev. Mr. Telford, a noble and Christ-like character, Rev. D. E. Magill, a man much beloved by all, Rev. Mr. Rankin and Rev. B. E. Myers, the present pastor. The wonderful family of Rev. Mr. Magill is still within the bounds of the congregation.

Some of the present officers of the congregation are: Sunday School Superintendent, Mr. Samuel McMillan; President Y. P. C. U., Mildred Wineman; President Y. W. M. S., Mrs. Ord Luther; President W. M. S., Mrs. A. M. Adams; Leader of Juniors, Agnes Magill; Chairman of Trustees, Ralph Wineman; Elders, Charles Stewart, John Barclay, Argyle Miller, A. M. Adams, Elmer Wineman; S. C. Steele, Clerk.





ST. MARY'S GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH  
Homer City, Pa.

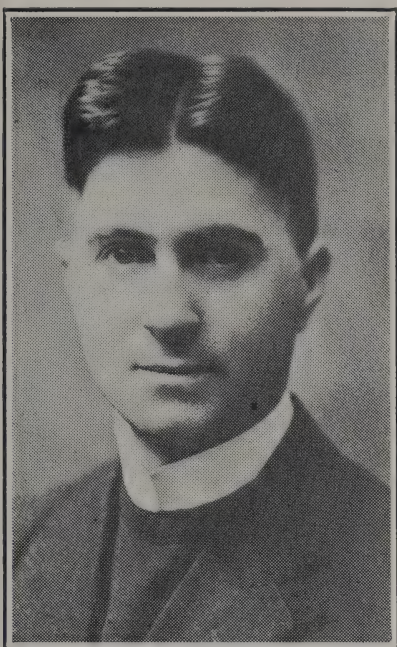
A meeting was held in 1918 by the members of the Greek Catholic Union, branch No. 586, the Union deciding to build a church because of a number of Greek Catholics residing in Homer City and vicinity having no place in which to get together to worship God in the way they saw fit. The church was built and completed in September 1918 and named in honor of The Virgin Mary, the Mother of Christ, St. Mary's Greek Catholic Church.

The first pastor of the church was Rev. Constantine Aurvoiff, who was succeeded by Rev. Andrew Koman who was here about one and one-half years. The next pastor was Rev. John Soroka who served four years. When Rev. Soroka left, Rev. Eugene Volkay took the work with a lot of financial troubles. After keeping up his work for two years, he was succeeded by the present pastor, Rev. John Baycura who was educated in Europe.

The present officers of the church are: Rev. John Baycura, President; Alex Molnar, Singer; John Rash, Sr., Vice-President; Nicholas Bender, Cashier; Mike Yanoschick, Secretary; Joe Horchar, Mike Terifay, Sr., Mike Zbur and John Rash, Jr., Trustees.

With these men working with the pastor, St. Mary's church will go forward.

Father Baycura is very much interested in the Bi-Centennial Celebration of Washington's birthday and is co-operating with the Washington Commission of Homer City.



REV. CHAS. E. HELD  
Pastor, Trinity Lutheran  
Church, Homer City, Pa.



REV. HARRY C. PRUGH  
Pastor, Presbyterian Church  
Homer City, Pa.

REV. B. E. MYERS  
Pastor of the United Presbyter-  
ian Church, Homer City, Pa.

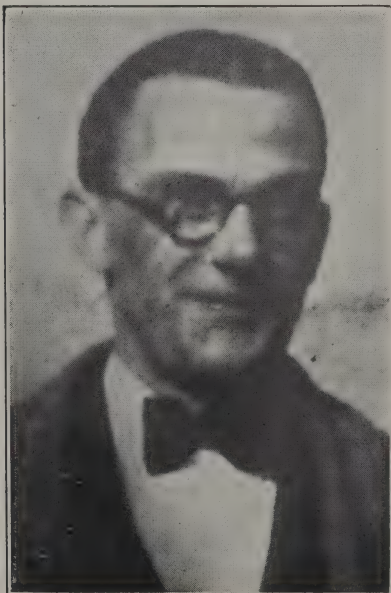


REV. JOHN BAJCURA  
Pastor of St. Mary's Greek  
Catholic Church, Homer City





REV. C. C. SHAFFER  
Pastor, Nazarene Church,  
Homer City, Pa.



REV. DAVID A. POVEY  
Pastor, Baptist Church,  
Homer City, Pa.

## CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH, HOMER CITY, PA.

Calvary Baptist Church was organized June 7, 1925, about twenty people meeting at the home of J. S. Baughman, Homer City, Pa. The church is known as a Missionary church, owing to the service it renders and to which it is so peculiarly adapted. At the time of its organization, there were twenty members, who found themselves to be without the necessary funds for the erection of a building. The need of a place became known to outside friends, and through the kindness and generosity of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, their building was offered for holding the Church's regular Sunday services and was gladly accepted, the church conducting its regular services there for one year. The Church was prospering in a steady growth of membership, and it was deemed necessary to put forth special effort to build. The trustees of the organization at that time were: Clarence Baker, Daniel Ferrier, Dale Lockard, Howard Lockard and Rev. J. C. Greene. About October 1st, 1926, ground was broken and, by some extra effort of the part of the members and some good friends, the earth was removed and work begun immediately on the foundation which was laid by Rev. Greene, the mason work being done in the twilight and late evening hours. Then came the framework, which was rushed, and by Dec. 20th, the building was ready for occupancy. A charter had previously been applied for and granted. The Church began its worship in the new building with a membership of fifty-five and a Sunday School of seventy members, with E. H. Lockard as Superintendent. Rev. Montreville Seely served the church faithfully as Pastor until March 1927, at which time he was called to a field of larger service at Bellwood, Pa. During this period the church was served by the following Deacons: Daniel Ferrier, Honorary Deacon; Morris Lockard and Howard Lockard; Mrs. J. C. Greene, Church Clerk; and Nelson Williams, Church Treasurer. The church being without a pastor, Rev. Greene was chosen and became Acting Pastor, serving in this capacity for one year. The church continued its growth although several hardships were encountered. After the resignation of Rev. Greene, in February 1928, the church was served by Rev. A. B. Fowler and other ministers, until the present Pastor, Rev. D. A. PoVey was called in June 1931. Rev. PoVey began his pastorate auspiciously, and by his optimism and earnest effort, faith and prayer, has kept the people in a happy frame of mind, despite the gloom of the present depression. The Church now has a membership of fifty-one and an active Sunday School of sixty-five members and a Loyal Brothers Society. Following are the present officers of the Church: James T. Reid, E. H. Lockard, M. H. Lockard, Ross Lockard, and Leslie Shipley, Deacons; James R. Greene, Floyd Auld, Glenn Garner, Dale Lockard, and Noble Lockard, Trustees; Edward H. Lockard, Sunday School Superintendent; Ross Lockard, Church Clerk; and James Greene, Treasurer.



## THE INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS

The Anniversary of the birth of George Washington, the "revered Father of his country, founder of liberty and friend of man" was celebrated by the Order by holding the first annual session of the Grand Lodge of the United States on the 22nd day of February 1825.

The Organization also honored him six years previous to this date by naming the first lodge organized in this country, Washington Lodge No. 1.

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows is an American institution and is one of the strongest orders in the world. Originally the Order was an English organization. The first lodge in this country was organized April 26, 1819 in Baltimore, Maryland and was called Washington Lodge No. 1. It was organized by Thomas Wilkey and four other English Odd Fellows, receiving its charter from England.

Not many years later, emulating the course taken by "the early fathers," the American lodges renounced their allegiance to the Mother country and ever since have been known as the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and now have branches in all parts of the world. There are seventy Grand lodges, fifteen thousand, four hundred, eighty-four Subordinate lodges, ten thousand, three hundred and twelve Rebekah lodges, with a total membership of two million, sixty-three thousand, one hundred and seventy-seven.

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows is not an insurance society, although in the year of 1930 it paid out \$7,861,263.79, at the rate of \$21,537 per day.

The mission of Odd Fellows is to visit the sick, relieve the distressed, bury the dead and educate the orphans.

The Order is justly proud of its splendidly equipped homes in every state in the union, where the widows, orphans and aged Odd Fellows may live among surroundings that approach the ideal.

No Odd Fellow, or Odd Fellow's dependents ever become public charges.

Pennsylvania has, at present, eight homes where widows, Rebekahs, aged Odd Fellows and orphans may receive care.

The Homer City Lodge No. 41, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, was organized at Homer City, July 30th, 1909, consisting of twenty-six charter members. The officers of the lodge, when organized, were Noble Grand Dr. J. S. Weamer, Vice Grand



Harry Schall, and Secretary W. P. Risinger.

The charter was granted this lodge by the Grand Lodge of Penn'a at the eighty-seventh annual session held in Williamsport, May 17, 1910.

The present officers of the lodge are John W. Moot, Noble Grand; Carlysle Foutz, Vice Grand, and Lester Tuck, Secretary.

Since the organization of the lodge it has received, by initiation, or by transfer, from other lodges, two hundred and nine members, of which one hundred and one are enrolled.

Before closing, we wish to say a word or two concerning the three mysterious letters that bind us together—F., L. and T.

#### Friendship

A true friend is God's noblest gift. He who would have a friend must show himself friendly. In this age of shams, it is refreshing to find a Brother who says "are you looking for me?" If so let me be thy friend.

#### Love

You cannot define it. You only know it by possessing it. Love was born in the boundless blue above us and is given liberally by our Creator to us all. Get thou that love which is stronger than death.

#### Truth

It is a part of God and must ever prevail. To thine own self be true, and it must follow as the night the day. Thou can't be false to any man after an experience which brings me to the sunset of my life.

We wish to say that no order, on the face of the earth, has a nobler motto and our great wish is that you may enter by a personal experience into the joyous mysteries of F., L. and T.

### REBEKAH LODGE OF I. O. O. F.

The Pentelope Rebekah lodge No. 431 of Homer City was instituted on Aug. 21, 1912, by Elizabeth B. Sloan, with thirty charter members.

The officers at the time were: Noble Grand, Mrs. Mabel Tuck; Vice-Grand, Mrs. Amy Coup; Chaplain, Mrs. Rev. J. W. Shaffer; Secretary, Mrs. Martha Risinger.

The present officers are: Noble Grand, Mrs. Daisy Foutz; Vice-Grand, Mrs. Clara Myers; Chaplain, Mrs. Gwen DeBonney;

Secretaries, Mabel Love and Nanny George; Treasurer, Mrs. Emma Love.

On July 15, 1843, Jesse Leigh a member of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee introduced the following resolution: that the Representative to the Grand Lodge of the United States be instructed to urge upon Grand Lodge of United States to originate an honorable side degree to be conferred upon the wives of all Odd Fellows. On Sept. 18, 1845, Grand Representative Williams of Alabama introduced into the Grand Lodge a resolution looking to the adoption of some measure by which the wives of Odd Fellows might be enabled to make themselves known to the Order, which had the effect of securing the passage of a resolution providing for the issuing of a card to the wife of an Odd Fellow recommending her to the "Friendship, Aid and Protection" of the members of the Order, where ever she may be, throughout the world.

This resolution was adopted and, on Sept. 20, 1850, Grand Representative Schuyler Colfax of Indiana, Chairman Wm. T. Martin of Mississippi and Edward G. Steele of Tennessee were appointed to prepare the degree.

From year to year this degree has grown and expanded, until today it is a great organization, having for its object the carrying out of the beneficent principals of the Great Order of Odd Fellows.

There are three links that bind us.  
They bind like hoops of steel;  
To those who know their meaning  
We know these links are real.

They teach us to remember  
Old age as well as youth;  
The golden links that bind us are  
Friendship, Love and Truth.



HOMER CITY FIRE COMPANY GROUP



## BOY SCOUTS

Graceton, Pa.

Scout Master, Homer Stewart

Scout Commissioner, George Allison

Scout Committee:

Floyd Phillippi, Earl Myers, John Heath,  
Thomas Doherty, George Allison





HUDSON R. GRUMBLING  
Homer City, Pa.

Hudson R. Grumbling was born Aug. 11th, 1872, at Brushvalley, Pa. He is the son of Harriet A. and the late Daniel O. Grumbling. Mr. Grumbling attended the public schools of Brushvalley.

On June 6th, 1895, he married Cora M. Snyder of Brushvalley Township, Miss Snyder being one of the teachers in that district. To this union two children were born: Tersa Grumbling Raymond and Hudson Virgil Grumbling.

In 1911 he was elected school director serving two terms, six years of which he was president of the board.

Mr. Grumbling has served seven years as Borough Assessor and in 1931 he was elected to serve four years more. In 1931 he was elected president of the Assessor's Association of Indiana County, Pa., and December 10th, 1931, was appointed to the Department of Revenue at Harrisburg, Pa. In 1927 Mr. Grumbling was Mercantile Appraiser of Indiana County.

He belongs to I. O. O. F. and Jr. O. U. A. M. No. 199 and W. O. W. Camp No. 36. Politically he is a Republican and a member of the M. E. Church of Homer City, Pa.



HOMER CITY COUNCIL NO. 199  
Junior Order United American Mechanics

The first Council of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics was organized in an old stone school-house in Germantown, Pa., now a part of Philadelphia, on May 17, 1853, with a membership of twelve young men.

From this small beginning it has grown until, at present, it has a membership of about 400,000. Our own old Keystone state has a membership of about 60,000.

This Order believes in maintaining and promoting the interests of Americans; in upholding the American school system of public education and encouraging the reading of the Bible therein.

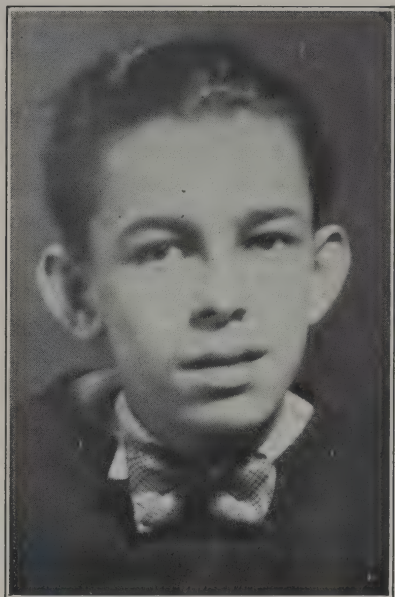
It maintains one orphan's home at Tiffin, Ohio, and another at Lexington, N.C., both of them taking care of over 1400 children who are orphans of deceased members of the Order.

The Funeral Benefit Department has paid out more than \$22,500,000 to dependents of deceased members.

Homer City Council, No. 199, was organized on Nov. 18, 1914, with J. C. Brillhart, Councilor and Tracy Brandon, Secretary. At present it is in a very flourishing condition, with a membership of almost 200. The following persons have won Past Councilors' Credentials, either by serving as Councilors, or by service of thirty-six consecutive months in one office: J. C. Brillhart, A. A. Beers, C. F. Jamison, Robert C. Shirley, O. R. McCulley, Robert Isenberg, B. M. Fleming, Gil Harkins, Rowland Pentz, M. A. Brant, Hale Stivison, Allen Wilson, William Davis, Robert Steffy, Carl McCormick, Jay Pierce, Wm. Barclay, Wm. Blaine, Rudolph Steffey, Arthur George, John Clawson, Sr., Harry Coy, Ralph Hiner, Austin Rickard, Ralph Wineman, John Clawson, Jr., J. H. Laney, S. G. Walbeck, W. I. Potts, Homer Stewart, H. R. Grumbling, Paul Campbell, John W. Moot, S. W. Uber and R. C. Walbeck.

Joe Potts is the present Councilor and R. C. Walbeck the present Secretary.

During the World War, this Council had twenty-two of its members in the service, not one of them being killed, but, one, Walter Harris, dying after being brought from France to the United States.



HARRY EDGAR KERR, JR.  
Homer City, Pa.

Eddie, as he is known to every one, the son of Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Kerr, is one to whom the many privileges and pleasures of those who enjoy good health is denied. For many years he has been an invalid and confined to the house on his easy chair, but his afflictions have not dulled his intellect, or affected his cheery disposition. Eddie was born March 3, 1914, in Homer City and has lived here all his life.

His father, Harry E. Kerr, who for twenty-six years was connected with the Prairie State Incubator Co., and his uncle George Kerr of Cincinnati, Ohio, are the two surviving members of a family of five sons of John A. and Mary Isabell Diven Kerr, who were married in Elderton, Penn'a, March 11, 1875, by Rev. Thompson.

John A. Kerr, who died April 5, 1928, was the last surviving member of the Major A. J. Bolar Post G. A. R. with the exception of Samuel Sheffler, who recently moved to Homer from Coral, Pa. He enlisted in the army of the North as a private in Company B, 1st Bat., Penn'a Vol., under Captain John G. Wilson and shared the privation and hardships of his company until mustered out at Pittsburgh. His widow, Mary Isabell Diven Kerr, who resides at 145 East Church St., is one of the three surviving widows of veterans of the Civil War living in Homer City.



## W. C. T. U.

The local W. C. T. U. of Homer City was organized in 1901 in the old M. E. Church. Rev. M. S. Telford of the United Presbyterian church conducted the devotions. Mrs. Eva G. Thompson of Indiana, County President of the W. C. T. U., presented the claims of the organization.

An organization was effected with the following officers: President, Mrs. Rev. J. W. Shaffer; Vice President, Miss Kate McMinn; Secretary, Mrs. Fanny McConnaughey; Treasurer, Mrs. Mary Berry. Fifteen members were taken into membership at organization.

Some of the work that the local W. C. T. U. has done was to place a picture of Frances E. Williard, who was one of the greatest temperance reformers, in the schools. The W. C. T. U. owes largely to her for the organization plans that are carried on in every state and territory of our country and in fifty nations federated in the World's W. C. T. U.

Gifted with a rare imagination "that search light of the soul" Miss Williard had also a genius for constructive details, seldom equalled. With inherited pluck and a Williard's (Will Hard) will, she wrought out her world's vision.

The local W. C. T. U. have also placed a Bible in each of the rooms of the High School and the grades, fifteen in all. They are sending the "Union Signal" to Miss Isabel Simpson, a former teacher in the Homer School, but now a missionary in Cairo, Egypt. They send comfort kits to the aged shut-ins of Homer City. They hold silver medal contests every year and there are, already, two boys and three girls who have won a silver medal. These are just a few of the many things they are doing. They have a membership of about forty members with the following officers: President, Mrs. J. W. Fulmer; Vice President, Mrs. Rev. B. E. Myers; Secretary, Mrs. Murray Lucas and Treasurer, Mrs. Dick Stevens. The State President is Mrs. Ella B. Black of Beavertdale, Pa., and the County President, Mrs. J. C. Divin of Blairsville, Pa.

The slogan of the W. C. T. U. is—Eternal Vigilance is the Price of Prohibition. Their Motto—Working for the welfare of Indiana County homes.



BOY SCOUTS  
Homer City, Pa.



Scout Master, William Ruddock  
Assistant Scout Master, Lewis Little  
Scout Commissioner, Dr. C. H. Kirk

Scout Committee:

B. F. Harris, Rev. Chas. E. Held, Rev. B. E. Myers, Lafayette  
Tuck, L. H. E. Will, Paul Campbell, John Thomas



BOY SCOUTS, TIDE, PA.



Scout Master, Lawrence Koehler  
Assistant Scout Master, Alex Molnar

Scout Committee:  
O. B. Gates, D. G. Ruddock, Chas. Shacikoski,  
John Dudash, Earnest Tanner



In Memory

of

**JOHN A. KERR**

Co. B, 1st Bat., Penn'a Vol.

Born 1848 - Died 1928

by

Mrs. John A. Kerr

In Memory

of

**JOHN A. MIKESELL**

Pioneer Farmer

Born Dec. 23, 1836

Died Oct. 26, 1920

by

Harry C. Mikesell

In Memory

of

**Rev. James W. Shaeffer**

Born July 7, 1860

Died Sept., 1923

**Margaret O. Shaeffer**

Born Jan. 4, 1867

Died Sept., 1916

by

Thomas R. Shaeffer

In Memory

of

**REV. D. E. MAGILL**

Born 1855

Died 1921

by

Jos. B. Magill

In Memory

of

**WILLIAM MABON ORR**

May 14, 1876      Nov. 26, 1931

Member of Homer City Borough

Council and Firemen

by

Mrs. W. M. Orr

In Memory

of

**B. B. McCONNAUGHEY**

Merchant

Born 1856

Died 1920

by

Ray McConnaughey

In Memory

of

**Henry Scott Kinter**

1851-1929

**Margaret Lucas Kinter**

1854-1927

Courageous people who lived in  
the hill district of Center  
Township and later in  
Homer City, Pa.

by

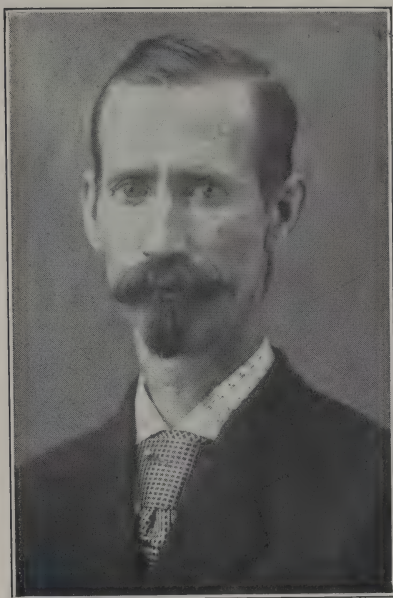
Martha Kinter



#### DR. FRANK FISHER MOORE

In memory of Dr. F. F. Moore—By his family

Dr. Frank Fisher Moore was born in the state of Ohio, Nov. 28, 1880, a son of George and Margaret (Fisher) Moore. He attended the Medico Chirurgical College at Philadelphia and University of Pennsylvania, graduating May 23, 1903. For awhile he was engaged as a druggist at Atlantic City, then went to Punxsutawney, where he became house physician at the Adrian Hospital until June 1904. He located at Yatesboro, Pa., where he was assistant surgeon for the Cowanshannock Coal & Coke Company. In 1907 he received an appointment as physician for the Rochester & Pittsburgh Coal & Iron Company at the Lucerne Mines in Center Township. He moved to Homer City in 1918. Dr. Moore was a member of the Presbyterian Church and was active in the church and a man interested in the community in which he made his home. He was president of Borough Council and vice-president of the Homer City National Bank. On June 17, 1907, Dr. Moore was united in marriage with Miss Jean Craig of Yatesboro, Pa. Dr. and Mrs. Moore were the parents of two sons, Francis and James Moore. Francis is a graduate of University of Penn'a and now attending Harvard Business School. Dr. Moore died June 24, 1927. He had a host of friends and was interested in the welfare of his fellowmen.



HENRY H. MYERS

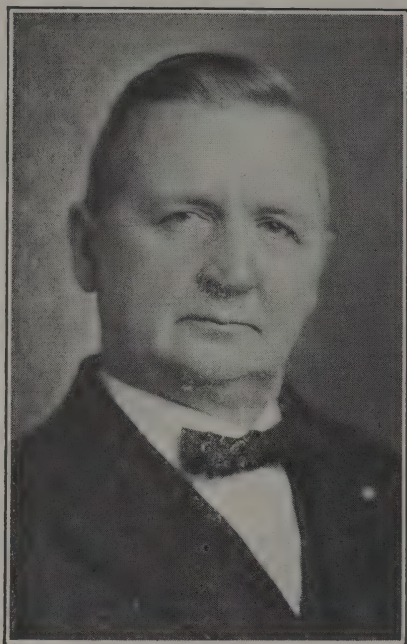
In memory of Henry H. Myers

by

his grandson, R. B. Kunkle

Henry H. Myers was born 1842, died June 15, 1914. He enlisted in the Army in 1862, at the age of twenty years. He was in Company A, 135 Penn'a Volunteers for nine months. Later, he re-enlisted in Company F, 55 Regular Penn'a Volunteers for three years, or duration of the war. He served under Captain Samuel Nickelson.

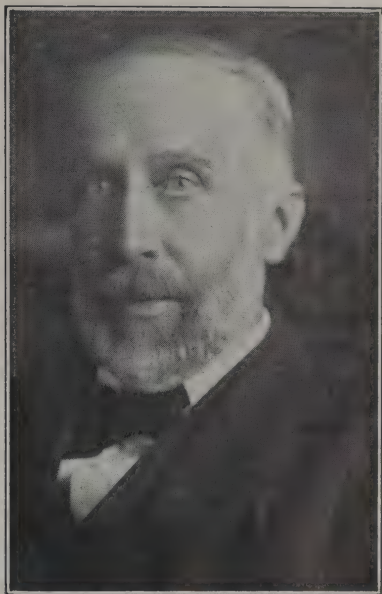




### IN MEMORY OF ALBERT FENNIMORE COOPER

By His Family

In a small town in Clarion County on April 18, 1855, first breathed Albert Fennimore Cooper, whose ability and sagacity brought to Homer City much of its prosperity and many of its improvements. In 1887, he formed a partnership with J. L. Nix and organized the Prairie State Incubator Company, which for the next two decades shipped incubators to all parts of the world. Meanwhile Mr. Cooper's interests had broadened. As a member of the Council, he encouraged all local improvements; by a substantial gift the first brass band in town was organized under the leadership of John Auld. As a member of the School Board, he gave to the school its first library and later secured from the Government its valuable collection of natural specimens. In 1902 he was elected to the Penn'a State House of Representatives where he served two terms and was on the important World's Fair Committee. He moved to Pittsburgh in 1906 and was engaged in a number of business enterprises in the city. At the age of seventy-six he died leaving to survive him: his widow, Agnes Dice Cooper; two daughters, Mrs. George Kerr of Cincinnati, Ohio, and Mrs. Robert Potter of Lowell, Mass.; and two sons, Lawrence and John, of Pittsburgh, Pa.



### IN MEMORY OF JOHN PATTON ST. CLAIR

By His Children

John Patton St. Clair, son of the late Dr. Thomas and Charlotte Patton St. Clair was born in Indiana, Pa., Dec. 31, 1848.

Following his education in the Academy of that town he served three years as Clerk in the County Commissioners Office.

During the many years Mr. St. Clair lived in Homer City, he was recognized as an outstanding citizen. He served many terms both as a member of the School Board and Town Council and his influence for good in the community was always felt.

For over forty years he was an elder in the Presbyterian Church, which speaks for his Christian life. His active church work was recognized at all times by Kittanning Presbytery and the honor of representing this body in the General Assembly was given Mr. St. Clair in 1901.

On Jan. 4, 1872, he married Martha J. Daugherty and to this union were born the following children: Mary Charlotte Moorhead of Minneapolis, Minn.; Dr. Thomas Patton St. Clair of Latrobe, Pa.; Frank Daugherty St. Clair, of Saltsburg; John Denniston St. Clair, deceased; Jennie Slemmons Reed of Indiana, Pa.; Dr. James Roy St. Clair of Alexandria, Pa.; Anna Josephine Simpson of Indiana, Pa.



DR. WILLIAM L. REED  
IN MEMORY OF DR. WILLIAM L. REED

By his son, Dr. C. Paul Reed

Dr. William L. Reed was born on a farm near Elders Ridge, Pa., in 1843. He spent his boyhood days farming and attending Elders Ridge Academy.

At Lincoln's call for volunteers, he joined Colonel Black's 62nd Regiment, being a member of Company D. His regiment was a part of the troops which advanced nearest to Richmond in the Peninsular Campaign and at the fighting near Hanover Courthouse, he received a wound in the left arm. At the Gettysburg fight, Dr. Reed was wounded in each leg and again in the left arm. His war record was excellent.

After the war he attended Westminster College where he met and married Anne Priscilla Johnston. Following Dr. Reed attended Medical College in Cincinnati and read Medicine with Dr. Robert McChesney of Shelocta.

He located in Jacksonville and was living there when elected to the State Legislature.

At the time of his death he was living in Homer City where he had practiced medicine for many years.

The following children are living: Mrs. Nola Scott of Wilksburg; Mrs. T. C. Porter of Parnassus, Pa.; and Dr. C. Paul Reed, Indiana, Pa.



## IN MEMORY OF SIMON HENDRICKSON DRENNING

By His Daughter, Mrs. Esther Drenning

Simon Hendrickson Drenning, son of William and Esther Drenning, born Aug. 24th, 1838, one mile east of Homer City in Center Township. He was educated in the District school and Cherry Hill Academy, taught school for twenty years in Center Township, Brushvalley and other parts of the County. He was the first dentist of Homer City and very successful in his profession. He was also a traveling dentist, having appointments in different parts of the County. He enlisted from Indiana County and was mustered into the United States service March 31, 1862, to serve one year, or during the war. He was a private in Co. H, 103rd Regiment Penn'a Volunteers under Captain Joseph Daugherty and Col. Thomas Lendin. The regiment was assigned to Kearns Brigade, Casey's Division, Army of the Potomac and engaged in Yorktown, Williamsburg, Seven Days Battle, Malvern Hill and Plymouth, N.C. He received his honorable discharge June 25, 1865. He was a member of Maj. A. J. Bolar Post Homer City, Pa., No. 533, G. A. R. He was Adjutant of the Post from its organization until his death. He was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Crawford, Jan. 9th, 1873, at Homer City, Pa., by Rev. Richard Jordan. They were the parents of two children, L. Esther Drenning, now Mrs. W. S. Hamilton, and Robert Drenning, deceased. Mr. Drenning was a member of the M. E. church of Homer City his entire life. He served on the Official Board for a number of years. He was also Justice of the Peace in Homer City for a number of years and served in other offices of the Borough. He departed this life October 14th, 1914.

## IN MEMORY OF HIRAM VIRGIL ROWAN

Hiram Virgil Rowan was born in Pittsburgh in 1865 on a small truck farm. Rowan street, in East Liberty, now passes through the tract. After the death of his father, when he was about ten years of age, his mother disposed of the property and they moved to Leechburg, Pa., where he attended public schools and also attended school in Pittsburgh. He worked in the mills as soon as he was old enough, then taught school in that vicinity. During this time he not only secured an education which fitted him for teaching school, but also became educated in music. The school year of 1891-92, he was principal of the Saltsburg schools, coming to Homer City, as principal of the schools here until the close of the 1899-1900 term, when he went to Wisconsin. Dauphin County, where he taught several terms. He then spent several years at Manor, Pa., during which time he studied law and was admitted to the Westmoreland County Bar. He located at Jeannette, Pa., where he practiced law until his death in 1929, which occurred at Lake Couchiching, Ontario, Canada, while on vacation. He was married in 1900 to Miss Minnie McLelland of Manor. During his residence in Manor, he was president of the Gounod Music Club, member of Masonic Order, Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Presbyterian Church.

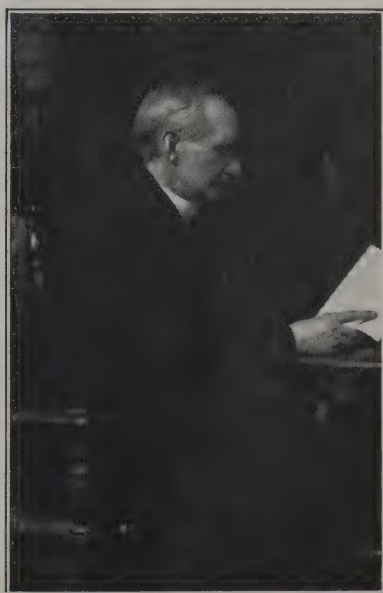
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## IN MEMORY OF FRANK P. ROWAN

Frank P. Rowan, a younger brother of H. V. Rowan, was also born in Pittsburgh and came with his mother and brother to Homer City. He was a talented musician and taught the guitar, mandolin, banjo and violoncello. He studied piano tuning and became very proficient in that work, devoting all his time to it since locating in Greensburg about thirty years ago. Mr. Rowan married Miss Mary King of Lykens, Pa., and they were the parents of three children: Frances, a teacher in the Greensburg schools; Kermit, a student at Slippery Rock College and Caroline, a student at Carnegie School of Technology, Pittsburgh. The death of Frank P. Rowan occurred at Greensburg, Pa., February 8, 1932.



ST. MARYS ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH  
Lucernemines, Pa.



REV. LADISLAUS LIPSKI  
Pastor of St. Louis Roman Catholic Church, Lucerne Mines, Pa.





BETHIEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The organization of the Church of Bethel dates back to the year 1790. This church, with the Church of Ebenezer, form the two oldest churches in Kittanning Presbytery and were first united under one pastorate. The territory included in the bounds of Bethel was settled largely by Scotch-Irish Presbyterians who, while they hewed their homes out of the wilderness, made provision likewise for the preaching of the Gospel.

The cemetery adjacent to the church has the distinction of having in it the mortal remains of the grandfather and two aunts of our distinguished General John J. Pershing. There are also nine Revolutionary soldiers resting within the confines of this cemetery: Lieutenant Charles Campbell, Michael Mullen, James McOmbs, Randall Laughlin, Peter Fair, William Hamilton, Thomas Burns, Hugh McIntire and Christopher Harrold, Jr.

The following ministers have served the congregation, either as pastors or stated supplies: Rev. Joseph W. Henderson, Rev. Jesse Smith, Rev. Robert Johnston, Rev. R. W. Orr, Rev. John

Cross, Rev. S. P. Bollman, Rev. J. Brown, Rev. Wm. Cooledge, Rev. Franklin Orr, Rev. J. S. Axtell, Rev. J. N. Diamant, Rev. Carl Moore, Rev. Wolfe, Rev. A. H. Donaldson, Rev. A. B. Wilson, Rev. John Gourley, Rev. J. H. Bausman, Rev. R. H. Fulton, Rev. Douds, Rev. Hughes, Rev. J. M. Fendley, Rev. B. J. Long, Rev. Harry Mcconnell, Rev. R. J. Roberts and the present pastor, Rev. Harry C. Prugh.

Elders serving the church: Gen. Michael Campbell, Gen. James McCombs, John Allison, Mr. Sample, John Lewis, Maj. James Laughery, Wm. Hamilton, John Robinson, Wm. Anthony, Thomas Hamilton, Evans Lewis, Joseph Henderson, James Hunter, Alexander McMullin, James McKee, Wm. Carson, N. P. Turner, Wm. Johnston, James Reed, Robert Mccluskey, J. L. Robinson, Thomas Hamilton, Daniel Wilson, S. W. Johnston, R. O. Allison, Jeremiah Lomison, John Shields, James W. George, Harrison Kaufman, B. F. Lydie, John F. Pounds, I. K. Miller, J. Harvey George, Wm. George and John M. Lydie.

The present staff of Elders: J. M. Johnston, James H. Allison, Joseph A. Henderson and Ira Gibson, Clerk of Session.

Trustees now serving: Frank Winsheimer, Treas.; Wallace George, Wendell Lydie and Charles Neurig.

Present membership 75; Sabbath School, 60. Superintendent of Sabbath School, J. M. Johnston.



REV. H. G. TRIMMER  
Pastor, M. E. Church, Graceton, Pa.



M. E. CHURCH  
Graceton, Pa.

M. E. CHURCH  
Graceton, Pa.

The land on which the M. E. Church is located was given by Mr. Hugh English. The building was erected in 1904. The pastors who have served the congregation are as follows: Rev. McGuire, Rev. Williams, Rev. Sipes, Rev. Coleman, Rev. Newell, Rev. Sylvus, Rev. Eberhardt, Rev. Sommers, Rev. Fedder, Rev. Low and the present pastor is Rev. H. G. Trimmer. Superintendent of the Sunday School is Floyd Phillippi and the Official Board of the church consists of: Floyd Phillippi, Raymond Hay and Russell Shank. The officers of the Ladies Aid are: Mrs. L. F. Phillippi, President; Mrs. E. McLaren, Vice President, and Mrs. Raymond Hay, Secretary.





LUTHER CHAPEL, CORAL, PA.

In the year 1928, Rev. Nicholas G. Sharets began to hold services in the school-house at Blacklick, about one mile below Coral. These services were held by Pastor Sharets and others until January 15, 1846, when a congregation was organized at Coral by Rev. Peter Salm with twenty-six members. A building committee, consisting of Michael Rugh, John Fair, Adam Mike-sell and Jonas Mikesell, was appointed in 1850. A lot was bought from Daniel Altimus and John Peddicord, March 13, 1850. A brick church, 35 x 50, was erected on this lot at a cost of \$2500 and dedicated March 1st, 1852. This building is still serving the congregation. The church was served by the Blairsville Pastors until May 19, 1878, since which time it has been a regular part of Homer City Parish. Rev. Chas. E. Held is the present Pastor. Present membership: Baptized 177, Confirmed 103, Sunday School enrollment 90.

The Donor whose name appears below has made a contribution to the success of this Historical Souvenir Booklet.

Jas. L. Kinter, Civil and Mining Engineer  
Rev. Chas. E. Held, Minister  
H. E. Kerr, Supt. of Manufacturing  
J. S. Byers, Supervising Principal of Schools  
W. H. Smith, Instructor and Athletic Coach  
Ira Holsopple, High School Principal  
Frank B. Lowry, Mining  
Robert Maize Sutter, Hardware  
J. E. Hare, American Legion  
J. K. Repine, Tax Collector  
Lisle H. Kunkle, Notary Public  
B. F. Harris, Store Manager  
Paul Campbell, Assistant Supt. of Mines  
Wilbur Widdowson, Jeweler, Indiana, Pa.  
Dr. R. E. Huges, Indiana, Pa.  
Rev. Wilson Lewis, Minister  
Joe Shacikoski, Garage, Indiana St.  
William S. Blyth, 266 So. Main St.  
Ross R. Rumbaugh, Engineer  
Mrs. J. Milliard Frye, 109 N. Main St.  
Daniel Repine Cameron, Mechanical Engineer, 55 Juniper St.  
Rosa Moorhead Cameron, Homer City, Pa.  
Homer Stewart, Graceton, Pa.  
Frank C. Kinter, Coral, Pa.  
Don Sickenberger, Carpenter  
Arthur Gilbert Griffith, Homer City, Pa.  
H. S. Kissinger, Florist and Gardener  
Mrs. Margaret Myers Kunkle, 36 Kunkle Ave.  
William A. Brillhart, Clerk  
R. E. Walbeck, Letter Carrier  
Alex Mikesell, Post-office Clerk  
Edgar J. Carson, Letter Carrier  
J. R. Wineman, Mail Messenger  
Harry B. Empfield, Rural Letter Carrier  
Glenn M. Hensell, Rural Letter Carrier  
Willard F. Shaffer, Sub. Post-office Clerk

C. H. Kirk, Physician  
S. T. McMillan, Councilman  
Burton B. Guthrie, Bank Teller  
W. F. Peters, Homer City, Pa.  
Effie E. Calhoun, Stenographer  
Esther Blyth, Clerk  
William L. Ruddock, Scout Master  
Guy Battestile, Coal Miner  
Ruth E. Fitzhonts, Clerk  
Beulah V. Davis, Telephone Operator  
Calvin H. Cooper, Machinist  
Clayton E. Empfield, Homer City, Pa.  
Joe Tramontina, Confectionery  
Frank Winsheimer, School Director 20 years and Farmer  
Mabel E. Love, Telephone Operator  
Mabel C. Tuck, Seamstress  
Paul A. Risinger, Carpenter  
Arthur Frederick, Merchant  
A. H. Parks, Prudential Insurance  
Loui Onni, Barber  
Delmas P. Foust, Fireman  
Ralph Orr, Fireman  
Wm. L. Cramer, Clerk  
Merrill Iseman, Plumber  
J. Ralph Hiner, Plumber  
N. R. DeVinney, Mechanic  
R. M. Mathieson, Dentist  
Chas. E. Wineman, Powerhouse Operator  
Daniel M. Caldwell, Brick layer  
Geo. E. Allison, Chief Clerk, Graceton Coal & Coke Co.,  
Graceton, Pa.  
Elmer W. Cravener, Teaching, Homer City, Pa.  
Lester W. Tuck, Banking, Homer City, Pa.  
A. I. Campbell, Constable, Homer City, Pa.  
Oliverio's, Confectionery  
George E. Kerr (theatre), Homer City, Pa.  
John B. Cipoelini, Homer City, Pa.  
Frank P. Rowan, Piano Tuner  
Ralph Selkirk, Civil Engineer





MRS. ANNIE LOCKARD  
Centre Township

Mrs. Annie E. Lockard of North Homer, Center Township, was born in White Township, Indiana County, Pa., February 29th, 1844. She was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Henry. Her father was born at York, Pa., in 1804 and moved to White Township in 1830. He died at the age of 86 years.

Mrs. Lockard was next to the youngest in a family of five children. She was married to Mr. Morris Lockard in 1875 and lived for three years at Reed's Station, where Mr. Lockard was employed at the Paper Mills that were located on the same grounds that are now Camp Rest-a-While.

In 1878 they moved to Twolick, Center Township, at which place a large Saw-Mill and Chemical Works afforded employment to a considerable number of persons.

In 1890 they built the home that Mrs. Lockard has resided in ever since. Her husband died May 30, 1915.

Mrs. Lockard's daughter Cora died in her early girlhood days. Mrs. Lockard has the following sons: David H. of Vandergrift; Henry S., Arthur D., Calvin O., and Otis M., all residing in Center Township.

Mrs. Lockard is of German parentage and is enjoying splendid health.

She has a remarkable memory and splendid eyesight for a

lady of her age. She lived in White Township when the battle of Gettysburg was fought and well remembers the firing of the cannon on those eventful days.

Mrs. Lockard takes keen interest in the happenings of the day and, by being a daily reader of the newspapers, is well informed.

In her early life she was a member of the old Zion Lutheran church of Indiana, Pa., and sang in the choir for several years.

For the past forty years she has been a member of Trinity Lutheran church of Homer City.

Mrs. Lockard, being born on leap year, has the distinction of having had only twenty birthday anniversaries, so she is looking forward with keen delight to the celebrating of the 21st birthday anniversary on the 29th of February. Mrs. Lockard is the oldest living citizen of Center Township.

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## CENTER TOWNSHIP

Center Township was formed in 1807 and for many years was devoted to farming, but has since become a real center of industrial activity in manufacturing and mining. In 1870, Center Township had a population of 1,555; in 1910, there were 3,124; and in 1930, the population was 6,898. Much of the early history is written elsewhere in this book. Therefore, we shall devote this article to more recent events, manufacturing and industry.

### GRACETON COAL & COKE CO.

The first coke manufactured in Indiana County was produced in the late eighties by George Mikesell at what is now No. 1 plant of the Graceton Coal & Coke Co. He built and operated ten ovens. In the spring of 1890, a firm composed of J. W. Moore, John McCreary and Harry McCreary, bought this plant, also a large tract just north of it, and thirty-nine more ovens were built. During the summer of 1890, No. 2 plant was built, together with the town of Graceton.

J. W. McCreary and Harry McCreary, doing business as the McCreary Coke Company undertook the business of making coke at the present Graceton plant in 1890. They were successful in their operation due to the fact that they had constructed a coal washing plant which took the impurities out of the coal before going to the ovens, which, at that time, gave them the best Foundry Coke manufactured. January 1, 1900, they sold their



COMPANY STORE AND OFFICE BUILDING  
Graceton, Pa.



COKE OVENS AND COKE WASHER  
The oldest in Indiana County, Graceton, Pa.



interest to Youngstown Steel Company, Youngstown, Ohio, who operated under the name of Graceton Coke Company until they sold their interest, August 1920, to the present owners, The Graceton Coal & Coke Company. The Plant at present has a daily production of 1100 tons of coal and employs about three hundred men. Their valuation is \$183,581.

#### COSGROVE & MEEHAN COAL COMPANY

The Cosgrove & Meehan Coal Company located at Tearing Run, near Homer City, was first operated by the Guthries, beginning 1894. Later the Plant was sold to the present owners who possess about five hundred acres of coal and employ one hundred men at their mine. Their valuation is \$30,720.

#### THE POTTER COAL & COKE CO.

Coral, Pa.

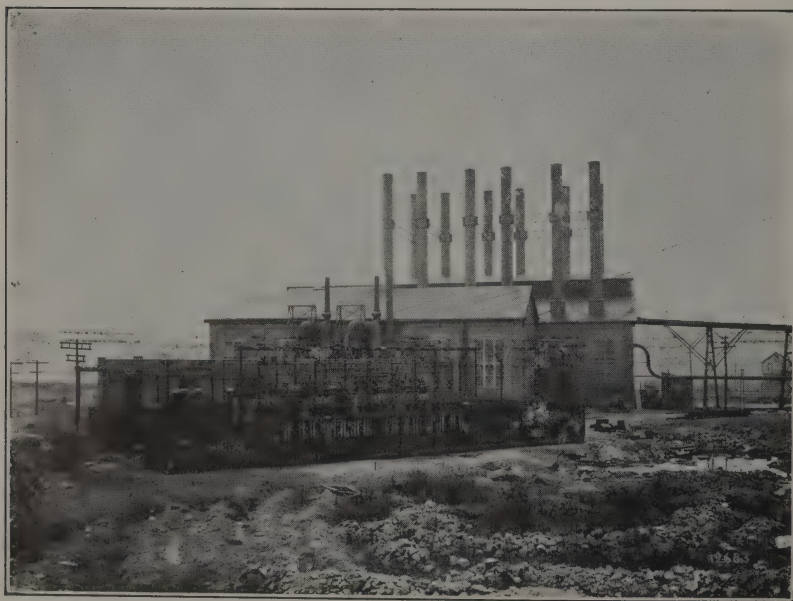
Joseph Wharton of Philadelphia, Pa., began operating a mine here in 1902. In 1916, he sold to the Potter Coal & Coke Co., who own 1500 acres of coal, employ 295 men. The town of Coral, owned by the Company has comfortable houses which are given to the miners at a low rental. The town is kept in a modern condition with electric lighting through the streets. The houses are furnished with electric lights and water. The assessed valuation is \$154,415.

#### THE ROCHESTER & PITTSBURGH COAL & IRON CO.

The Rochester & Pittsburgh Coal & Iron Co. began operating in Center Township about 1900 at Lucerne Mines and, later, at other places, as follows: Lucernsboro, three Snyder mines, Coy Junction, Waterman, Tide and Altman. However, at the present time only Lucerne Mines, Waterman and Tide are operating, but the houses are still occupied in the other mining towns, and the miners furnished work. The Company owns 20,000 acres in the township and has a daily output of 12,000 tons of coal. The approximate valuation of the company, in all their holdings in the township, is about \$1,700,000. The Company is considerate of their families. Community work is done. The employees of this Company are housed in well kept homes of modern construction, leased to the employees at a nominal rental. The Company towns are healthful, cheerful and clean. Doctors and Hospital attention are provided in each town. Community recreation halls are built and equipped and every encouragement given to social, religious and athletic activities. Improvements have been made at the Lucerne Mines in the past eighteen months: that of furnishing water from the Homer City Water Plant for the homes. Re-



A SCENE OF CORAL COKE OVENS AND TIPPLE VIEW  
Coral, Pa.



POWER PLANT, R. & P. COAL CO.  
Lucerne Mines, Pa.

cently a new welfare plan has been worked out by the Company whereby the needy are cared for through this organization of the Company. The Company plans further improvements in their towns in the near future.

#### FARMING

The Township has been noted for its good farms and farmers. Of course the Coal industry has taken some of the good farms, but still there are many prosperous farmers in Center Township. Mr. Thomas George of Homer City owns and controls the largest acreage of Fruit. E. E. Miller has one of the finest chicken farms and the following are doing general farming and dairying: C. S. Kunkle, Frank Winsheimer, E. J. Miller, J. M. Johnson, Ernest Johnson, Howard Altman, Linus McHenry, William George, Darwin Stewart, Fred Nehrig, Mrs. Clara Cooke, Alex Bennett, A. I. Miller, Mrs. Sara Caldwell, Tom Billingslee, Andy Dick, W. U. Britton, T. J. Brandon, J. S. Kaufman, Emil Nehrig, Milton Neale, D. H. Fitzhonts, H. B. Glass and Alex Ewing.





LUCERNE MINES, PA., SCHOOL BUILDING



RISINGER SCHOOL BUILDING

## CENTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

Center Township was formed from Armstrong Township in 1807, but did not have any public schools for some years. They had subscription schools, the parents paying for their children's instruction. When the public schools were started, there were eleven in number and each school was named after the man who owned the land upon which the first building was erected: the Lytle District, one of the oldest in the township; the Harold, now called the Myers, has a one room building; the Barelay, now called the Cross-roads and having its second building; the Baker school, now called No. 10 District, having a one room building; Brush-hollow District, so named because of a very brushy hollow near where the building was built; the McCombs, now called Aultman District, probably the oldest in the township and now having its fourth building, a very fine, modern, up-to-date building having six rooms; the Risinger School District, No. 11, the first building of which was erected in 1855, a small one room frame building. Previous to the building of Risinger school, the pupils attended Upper Homer District. Homer was a twin city: Phillips Mills being the name of the Post-office and in the Risinger School District and Homer being in the Upper Homer District, remaining that way until 1867, when Center Township built a new school building in Homer town which with the coalition of Phillips Mills had become a borough, the town being named Homer City. In those days there were only four months of school and the parents bought the books and supplies. The second Risinger building was built in 1880; the third in 1908, the present building, a four room structure. In 1912 another district was formed from the Risinger District and named Lucerne District. A four room building was erected, a few years later two rooms were added and still later two more rooms, making eight rooms in this district. The Tide District contains two buildings about one mile apart; the Guthrie District has two rooms, or two buildings with one room each; Upper Homer has four one-room buildings; Graceton has a fine eight room, brick building and a two room building, ten rooms in all; Bridenbaugh District, up on the Ridge, has a one room building; Luciousboro has two, one room buildings and a two room building; Waterman has a four room building.

The following is a record that has been taken from the pages of history:

School Record—Risinger School  
Centre Township, Indiana County, Pa.

Session of 1893-1894

George M. Allison, Teacher



LUCERNE MINES SCHOOL TEACHERS 1931-1932



WATERMAN SCHOOL TEACHERS 1931-1932



## Pupils:

David H. Lockard	Callie Lockard	Ettie Berkepile
Perley Risinger	Harry Kerr	Cora Lockard
Edward Bracken	Frank Kerr	Edna Risinger
Harry Lockard	Clyde Tuck	Maggie Findley
George Kerr	Joseph McCombs	Lulu Risinger
Nervie Sickenberger	Paul Risinger	Ettie Brickley
Shelton Marshall	Urban Findley	Bessie Berkepile
Jordon McCombs	Charlie Marshall	M. Clare Allison
Willie Perry	Claire Findley	Mabel Tuck
Shelton Brickley	George White	Carrie Findley
Elmer Risinger	Luke Berkepile	Maud Mitchell
Jessie Marshall	Perd Z. White	Orrie Berkepile
Harry Phillips	Laura Tuck	Nellie Phillips
Bobbie Sickenberger	Jen White	Maud Bracken
Arthur Lockard	Bertha Phillips	Edna Sawyer

Names of some of the Directors who have served on the School Board at some time in the past:

Served in 1820: Jeremiah Lombison, Ed Harbison, Nicholas Rankin, John Risinger and Alexander Mitchel.

Served in 1870: J. D. Dickey, R. O. Allison, Samuel Sheffler and Peter Fair.

Served at some later date: Luman Gilbert, A. J. Cummins, J. A. Henderson, T. J. Brandon, J. J. Campbell, C. M. Lingle, J. M. Johnston, M. H. Risinger, Harry Carson and S. M. Miller.

Present Board of Directors: Frank Winsheimer, A. I. Miller, George Allison, Mr. Dickey, Harry Lockard, Mr. Evans and Harry Anderson.

The teachers of Center Township for 1931-32 are as follows: J. Ross Hamilton, Indiana; Cora E. Doty, Indiana; Audrey Rud-dock, Homer City; Gladys C. Dorn, Indiana; Florence Brown, Indiana; Clara Gemmell, Indiana; Beatrice Nichols, Indiana; Lucille A. Morris, Indiana; Mary E. Shaffer, Indiana; Margaret L. Dixon, Livermore; Gertrude White, Indiana; Mary Borland, Indiana; Nannie Beck, Trade City; Helen McMullen, Brush Valley; Millard S. Bennett, Brush Valley; F. E. Kauffman, Homer City; Wayne George, Homer City; Ben D. Gahagan, North Point; Alice McGillick, Blairsville; Mildred DeVinney, Blairsville; Elmer Cravener, Homer City; Wendell Stewart, Penn Run; Carl E. Bracken, Indiana; Jean Miller, Homer City; Ruth J. McAfoose, Indiana; Alma Rugh, Indiana; Zula Clare Brown, Homer City; Mary L. McCoy, Indiana; R. N. Glassfor, Indiana; Hazel Davis, Indiana; Louise B. Pace, Homer City; Dorothy Edwards, Homer City; Mary Jo Pilkington, Indiana; Margaret McCrea, Blairsville.



GRACETON, PA., SCHOOL BUILDING



AULTMAN SCHOOL BUILDING

ville; Mary Ann Loboda, Homer City; Ruth E. Jones, Indiana; Mary C. Mock, Blacklick; Elizabeth C. Luke, Indiana; Eva Nicholas, Indiana, R.D.; Harry Stewart, Indiana; Gertrude McCardle, Indiana; Dean Campbell, Indiana; Dorothy Mulholland, Indiana; Mabel Galbreath, Indiana; Edna C. Malcolm, Indiana; Ruth Lewis, Homer City; Leona Bracken, Indiana; Twila M. Barrett, Indiana; Beatrice Birdsall, Indiana.

The officers of Center Township at present are as follows:

Road Supervisors: Andrew Dick, Linas McHenry, Frank Siple and O. M. Lockard, clerk. Tax Collector, J. K. Repine. Assessor, William Altman. Justices of the Peace, R. E. Pratt and D. C. Weir. Auditors: Floyd Phillippi, Ruth Fitzhonts and H. F. Long. Constable, Samuel Cossell. Postmasters: Coral, Isaac Householder; Lucerne Mines, C. H. Pullium; Graceton, George Allison; Luciusboro, Frank Siple; Waterman, N. O. Olson, and Tide, Lawrence Koehrer.



CENTER TWP. BOARD OF EDUCATION





RISINGER SCHOOL TEACHERS 1931-1932



WATERMAN SCHOOL BUILDING

## Harry Flickinger & Son

Funeral Directors: 48 years Service to the Community

1848 - 1905 J. S. Flickinger

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Homer City, Pa.

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*Organized 1865*

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*Fair Prices and Courteous Treatment*

Sterling Gasoline, Oil and Grease

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Shoes  
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Homer City, Pa.

## Sutter Hardware Co. HARDWARE

Home Furnishings, Stoves and Ranges, Builders' Supplies  
Miners' Supplies

Homer City, Pa.

## Marshall Federal Bakery

*"Home of Quality"*

Bread - - - - Pies - - - - Cakes

Indiana, Pa.



## RISINGER SKETCH

Hans Nicklaus Risinger, or Reisinger, as originally written, the pioneer of this family in America, emigrated from the Palatinate, Bavaria, Germany, in the year 1749. He came with his son John Peter in the sailing ship "Dragon," George Spencer, master, with 563 passengers, arriving at their destination in York County, in what was then the Province of Pennsylvania, Sept. 26th, 1749.

John Peter, who came with his father, served as a private in the third battalion, York County Militia in the Revolutionary War, organized in 1775 by Colonel Richard McAlister. Col. McAlister commanded under Gen. Washington in the battles of Trenton and Princeton. One of John Peter Risinger's daughters was married to Isaac Lowmaster, a celebrated gunsmith during the Revolutionary period.

John Henrich Risinger, son of John Peter Risinger, was born in York County in 1768. He married Magdalena Myers in 1789. Their children were named as follows: John, Jacob, George, Henry, Daniel, Michael, Joseph, Polly, Lydia, Elizabeth and Mary. In the year 1806 the family migrated to Indiana Co. locating in Brushvalley township, on the farm which is now owned by Robert McNutt. When this land was secured it was covered with timber and surrounded on all sides with forests.

Michael Risinger, son of John Henrich, married Rebecca Williams of Brushvalley, a daughter of Capt. Benoni Williams, who served as Capt. in the war of 1812. Capt. Williams owned, at that time, what is now known as the Runyan farm in Brushvalley Township. In 1828 Michael Risinger purchased a tract of land of Twolick Creek in Center Township where he established a home and made improvements. A part of this tract is now the location of extensive mining operations called Lucerne Mines.

William Risinger, son of Michael, was born and reared and spent his entire life on this farm. He was married in 1868 to Nancy E. Orr of East Mahoning township, Indiana County.

J. M. and W. P. Risinger, sons of William, are now living on a part of the original tract of land acquired by their grandfather Michael Risinger in 1828. J. M. has two sons, Joseph and William and W. P. one daughter, Elizabeth.

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Complete Store for Men and Boys

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1912

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Real Estate and Insurance - Notary Public

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Every form of Insurance.

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Justice of the Peace

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*Established April 19, 1927*

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JOHN W. MOOT  
Advertising and Printing

All kinds of Calendars, Novelties and Sales Books

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Indiana, Pa.

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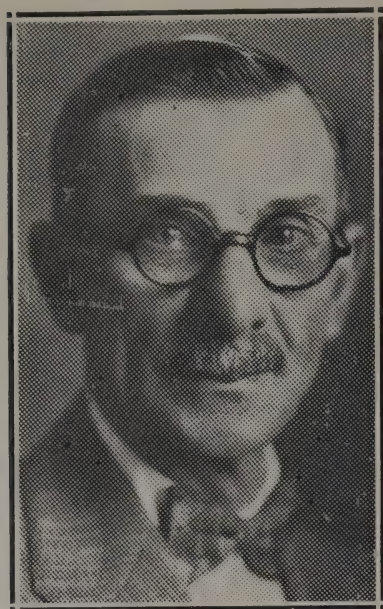
The Homer City National  
Bank

HOMER CITY, PA.



*You are invited to open an account at this bank.*





J. M. RISINGER

Mr. Risinger, a representative of a pioneer family, was a grandson of Michael Risinger, a pioneer of Indiana County who located on a tract of land on Twolick Creek in 1828. This land was secured from the State by patent title. His home is located within a few feet of where the first log house was built and has been in the family name for more than one hundred years. He was born and reared on this farm and was educated in the public schools of the district. In 1898 he entered the Penn'a State College and completed courses in agriculture and dairying. Returning to the farm, he was associated with his father, William Risinger, in the breeding and raising of registered Jersey cattle and dairy farming. His experience in this particular line has covered a period of more than thirty years. His father was a member of the first Board of Directors of the Homer City National Bank and, after his death, he succeeded him as Director, serving nine years, two years of this period as Vice-President and three years as President. He has served as President of the Indiana County Jersey Cattle Club five years and has been a director since its organization. He served as Secretary of the Indiana County Agricultural Extension Association for two years and has been a member of the Executive Committee for ten years. He served one year as President of the Pennsylvania Jersey Cattle Club and served as Auditor for Center Township one term.

## RANKIN SKETCH

Nicholas Sharretts Rankin, one of the old residents of Center Township and who also lived in Homer City for several years, was a son of George and Elizabeth Repine Rankin.

George was a son of Andrew and Ann Stitt Rankin and Andrew was a son of William and a step-son of Isabella Potter Rankin, who came to America in 1791 and located in Blacklick Township.

1858:

N. S. Rankin bought a tract of land in Centre Township from Nathan Simpson which had first been improved by John Houston, the pioneer, whose descendants had lived there. Also at least one other owner.

During the many years in which the Rankin home was maintained on this farm it was greatly improved in different ways. A house was built to replace the log house which had been in use. The oak lumber used in the building was sawed from timber obtained on the farm and hand dressed by the carpenters.

Later Mr. Rankin added to his farm by buying fifty acres of the David Cummins farm from T. B. Cummins, the former's son.

Mr. Rankin operated his farm until the time of his death, though not living on it at that time.

He had purchased a lot on Church street in Homer City from E. J. Miller and erected a house there in which he lived for several years prior to his death.

He held a number of township offices, having been a Justice of the Peace for twenty-five consecutive years.

He contracted for the erection of the Brushhollow school-house now in use.

He was always actively interested in anything which might benefit the farming community. He and his wife were charter members of Centre Township Grange which was organized in 1874.

He was married to Clarinda Cribbs whose grandfather, probably, was a resident of Centre Township from 1787. Her parents were David and Catharine Cribbs who resided in Blacklick Township on, what afterwards was known as the George Cribbs farm.

They were members of the Lutheran Church.

The children are Mrs. Minta Snyder, widow of the late Rev. J. Milton Snyder, a native of Franklin County; Mrs. E. J. Miller and Laura Rankin, all residents of Homer City; George A. Rankin who resided in Pittsburgh, not now living; and David C. Rankin of Wilksburg.

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Saltsburg, Pa.

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*Homer City, Pa.*

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## W. P. Risinger

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Homer City, Pennsylvania

Empire Theatre Building

Baldwin  
and Schiller  
Pianos

Atwater Kent Radios  
and  
Musical Merchandise

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*Established 1876*

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**MERRY MAC'S**

Fill up at Phil's  
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Service

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Outfitter for

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1932

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1918

1932

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CENT STORE**

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Horseshoeing and General  
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Particular attention given to  
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5 So. Main St., Homer City, Pa.

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**CONTRACTING**  
 Everything Electric  
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 Single Comb White Leghorns  
 Eggs - Stock - Chicks  
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**BRUNI & BARLETTA**  
 General Merchandise  
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